

2 killed in Gulf missile attack

BAHRAIN (R) — Two people aboard the Liberian supertanker Aristotle S. Onassis were killed on Friday when it was hit by a missile in an apparent Iranian air strike in the southern Gulf, shipping sources said. They said the 125,465-ton vessel, with a cargo of oil loaded at the Saudi Arabian port of Ras Tammurah, was attacked about 65 miles northwest of Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), at about 1300 GMT. The sources could not immediately identify the dead men. Three other seamen have been killed in apparent Iranian attacks in the area in the past eight days. Friday's attack follows an Iraqi missile raid on Thursday on a Maltese oil products carrier, Harmony 1, south of Iran's main Kharg Island terminal in an Iraqi-imposed war zone in the northern Gulf (See lead story). The sources said the Aristotle S. Onassis was about 40 miles southwest of Iran's makeshift Sirri Island oil terminal when it was hit. They said the vessel managed to continue under its own power.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Progress Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية 'الراي'

'Changes allowed to Lebanon pact'

BEIRUT (R) — Lawyers on Friday quoted Syrian President Hafez Al Assad as saying Syria would not object if a Damascus-mediated peace accord for Lebanon was amended. "If the Lebanese wish to amend it, the Syrians have no objection," a Beirut lawyers' union statement quoted Mr. Assad as having told at Arab Lawyers' Federation delegation in Damascus, Mr. Assad personally backed the accord when Lebanese militias signed it in Damascus last December, but it collapsed after anti-Syrian rightist hardliners crushed its Christian signatory. Syrian officials have since insisted the accord, which stipulates sweeping reforms to give Muslims more power, is the only way to end Lebanon's 11-year-long civil war. The statement, issued here, said Mr. Assad rejected demands by the pact's opponents that Syria should stop dealing with Lebanese affairs. "Shall we leave Lebanon to Israel, so that the result would reflect on Syria?" he was quoted as saying.

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King congratulates Czech leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Friday sent a congratulatory cable to Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak congratulating him on the occasion of Liberation Day. King Hussein also wished the Czechoslovak president good health and happiness and the Czechoslovak people every progress and prosperity. On Thursday, the Czechoslovak-Jordanian Friendship Society held a celebration on the occasion. On Thursday, the King sent a congratulatory cable to Ahmad Ali Al Mirghani on the occasion of his election as chairman of the Sudanese Supreme Council. King Hussein also sent a congratulatory cable to Sadiq Al Mahdi on his election as new prime minister of Sudan.

Jordan to get \$4m EC-Italian grant

GENEVA (Petra) — Italy and the European Community (EC) have agreed to give Jordan a \$4 million grant to finance the construction of a new hospital in Karak and a regional centre for training nursing instructors. Health Minister Zaid Hantze, who is now chairing a World Health Assembly (WHA) meeting in Geneva (See page 3), has received a copy of the financial aid agreement from the head of the Italian and EC delegations to the WHA meeting.

UNICEF director leaves for Geneva

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mr. Victor Soler-Sala, the regional director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), leaves Amman on Saturday to take up the post of director in charge of UNICEF European headquarters in Geneva. Mr. Soler-Sala was received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein on Thursday.

Klibi to visit Moscow this week

TUNIS (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi is to visit Moscow from May 12-14 at the invitation of the Soviet Union, an Arab League statement said Friday. It gave no details of his programme. Arab diplomatic sources said it would be Mr. Klibi's first official visit to Moscow. He previously visited the Soviet Union in November, 1983, and June, 1985.

Lebanese arrested at Larnaca airport

LARNACA (AP) — A Lebanese passenger was arrested here Friday shortly before boarding an Air France flight to Paris when airport security found two pistol magazines loaded with bullets in his hand luggage, a police statement said. The statement identified the man as Georges Assad Mubarak, 36. He was described as a philosophy student at Paris Sorbonne University and director of the Lebanese postal services. The statement said Mubarak arrived at Larnaca from Beirut aboard a military helicopter Friday morning. He was arrested Friday afternoon when he was going through airport security to board the flight to Paris.

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Iraqis seize 100 sq. kms of Iranian territory in new attack on central zone

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraqi forces punched into Iranian territory on Friday, destroying two armoured Iranian brigades and capturing five hills and a valley, a military spokesman said.

The spokesman, quoted by Baghdad Radio, said Iraqi forces in the central sector of the 1,180-kilometre warzone carried out a large-scale attack against Iranian troops, seizing 100 square kilometres of Iranian land.

This brought the Iranian territory under Iraqi control in the region to 375 square kilometres. Iraqi troops of the Fourth Army Corps deployed in the central sector captured 275 square kilometres during thrusts late April and early May.

The spokesman said the area seized included five hills and a valley in a region called Jam Hindy and Sa Ali Kezheh in the sandy desert terrain across the border east of the Iraqi post at Fuka.

Two Iranian army armoured brigades, a Revolutionary guard brigade and Iranian gendarmie battalions were destroyed in the attack, said the spokesman.

side Iran as long as Iran insisted on continuing the war and occupying Iraqi territory.

Iranian forces, who stabbed into Iraq's Fao Peninsula on Feb. 9, still occupy an estimated 85 square kilometres of territory in the muddy area in southernmost Iraq.

Reuters adds from Bahrain: A Maltese oil products carrier, Harmony 1, has been hit and set ablaze in an Iraqi Gulf war missile attack south of Iran's main Kharg Island oil terminal, shipping sources in the region said Friday.

They said the 85,560-deadweight-tonne vessel, used by Tehran to carry products north from its makeshift Sirri Island oil terminal in the southern Gulf, was hit on Thursday near the Iranian port of Bushire.

In London, Lloyds shipping intelligence service reported that Harmony 1's manager, Kappa Maritime Limited, had been told the ship was set ablaze and abandoned by its crew. It is owned by Star Harmony Shipping of Valletta.

Iraq said its warplanes hit a large vessel near the Iranian coast at 0430 GMT on Thursday.

Peres seeks to play down reports of imminent Israeli-Syrian war

Combined agency despatches

ISRAELI LEADERS on Friday sought to play down reports of an imminent Israeli attack against Syria and said they had no indications that Syria was going to launch an attack in the immediate future.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres told Israel Radio that Israel did not intend to attack Syria and had no information that Syria was about to attack Israel.

The prime minister's remarks appeared aimed at cooling reports of tension on the Golan Heights ceasefire line. A U.S. television network on Thursday reported Israel was preparing a major military strike against Syria.

"I can say with clarity that Israel has no intention of attacking Syria and, to the best of my knowledge, we have no indications that the Syrians are going to attack Israel (for example) tomorrow morning," Peres told Israel Radio.

He said the tension started with warnings of impending Israeli action sent recently by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat to Arab leaders.

"The whole thing was born in a cradle of bluff... (but) there has been a lot of talk, people have been talking too much," Peres said.

The report by CBS Television said Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, now in the United States, told officials there Israel

would strike at Syria.

Quoting U.S. and Western European intelligence experts, CBS News said it was unclear when such an attack — which could parallel last month's U.S. raid against Libya — would be launched, but it implied it could be soon.

A State Department spokesman declined comment on the report, which said Rabin, now on a U.S. tour, "bluntly told some U.S. officials in private that Israel is going to retaliate."

Rabin, who met Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and Vice-President George Bush, told reporters Syrian intelligence officials were responsible for the attempt to blow up an El Al Airlines Jumbo jet flying from London to Tel Aviv last month.

"Israeli military experts believe that the Syrian military threat is growing rapidly and that both for political and practical reasons the sooner Israel moves against Syria the better," CBS said.

"The Israelis are also said to believe that if they do not move now, Syria will use its superior tank force to strike across the Golan Heights."

CBS said: "No one in the intelligence community is willing to predict just when the Israelis will strike." But it quoted an unidentified senior U.S. official as saying he believes "the Israelis are building a case in order to whack Syria."

It quoted other U.S. officials as saying that after last month's U.S. raid on Libya, "it would be next to impossible for the Reagan administration to either discourage or criticise any Israeli action."

U.S. planes attacked two Libyan cities after President Reagan blamed Libya for the bombing of a West Berlin discotheque frequented by U.S. servicemen.

Rabin spoke to newspaper editors in New York on Thursday in what CBS said was part of a campaign to press his case with the American public against Syria.

Administration officials told Reuters it was well-documented that Syria had been building up its armed forces with Soviet help.

The Syrian embassy in London has denied any links with the attempted El Al bombing and said Syrians were becoming the target of a smear campaign "intended to justify Israeli and American military action against us."

British authorities have been seeking to question a Syrian diplomat in connection with the attempt.

The official Syrian newspaper Al Ba'ath said that Syria condemned terrorism but at the same time would not accept "blackmail, surrender or submission."

In an article published on Thursday, the paper also said that charges that Syria was involved in terrorism was another evidence of the "failure by political thinking to face world crises."



His Majesty King Hussein with Spain's King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia who arrived in Aqaba on Thursday on a private visit to Jordan (Petra photo)

Spanish king and queen continue visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Their Majesties King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain on Friday continued a private visit to Jordan. The Spanish guests arrived in

Aqaba on Thursday and were received upon arrival by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and senior officials.

King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia are guests of King Hussein and Queen Noor.

Spain expels Libyan consul

MADRID (R) — Spain expelled the Libyan consul-general on Friday, accusing him of helping a Spanish army colonel seek support for extreme right-wing activities from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi.

An official statement said Consul Saad Mohammed Al Salam Esmail, accompanied by Colonel Carlos Meer de Ribera, military governor of the central province of Avila, to Tripoli for a meeting with Col. Qadhafi last January.

"It appears (the colonel) asked for support to political extreme right-wing activities in Spain... it appears this support has not been organised," government spokesman Javier Solana told a news conference.

He said the colonel, who was detained on Friday, appeared to have acted on his own and no other Spanish military officers or civilians were involved.

The government said the consul-general had engaged in activities incompatible with his diplomatic status and ordered him to leave Spain on Friday.

He was the 12th Libyan expelled from Spain in the past three weeks. Libya last week retaliated for earlier expulsions by ordering 41 Spanish technicians and workers to leave.

Asked if Spain was considering breaking relations with Libya, Mr. Solana said: "The government is not considering this possibility at this moment, not at this moment."

Spain's relations with Libya grew tenser last month after Col. Qadhafi threatened to strike at countries harbouring U.S. military facilities in retaliation for any U.S. attack.

The United States share facilities at four bases in Spain.

Gemayel returns home from Tunis after reported Cairo talks with Mubarak

BEIRUT (Agencies) — President Amin Gemayel returned home on Friday after a three-day visit abroad during which he held talks with Tunisian and Arab League leaders and reportedly met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and a senior official of the PLO.

Minutes after Mr. Gemayel's plane landed near Beirut on Friday, shells and rockets crashed around the airport.

Police said Mr. Gemayel's plane landed at the newly built Halat airport in Beirut at 3:30 p.m.

Ten minutes after his motorcade left Halat to his hometown of Bikfaya a barrage of Soviet-made Katyusha rockets and Howitzer shells exploded between 50 and 200 metres around the airport, police said.

The Voice of Lebanon radio of Mr. Gemayel's Falange Party said the barrage came from the Syrian-held town of Kfar Ebrine in North Lebanon.

The Lebanese media said Mr. Gemayel discussed with Tunisian government leaders and Arab League officials the chances of a new Arab initiative to end the 11-year-old Lebanese civil war.

League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi spent 90 minutes Wednesday night with Mr. Gemayel.

Mr. Klibi told reporters on Thursday an Arab summit could be held in November if a planned foreign ministers' meeting next month did not decide to have one in June.

An authoritative Lebanese source said Mr. Klibi told Mr. Gemayel that Lebanon could raise the issue of its long-running crisis at a November summit.

Mr. Gemayel on Wednesday met Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), who is number two in Palestine Lib-

eration Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah group. Lebanese officials would not comment on the report.

Mr. Khalaf told reporters late Thursday he met with Mr. Gemayel and that their talks centred on the plight of Palestinians living in Lebanon.

Diplomatic sources in Cairo told Reuters Mr. Gemayel held secret talks with President Mubarak during a brief halt in Cairo on Tuesday on his way from Beirut to Tunis.

The sources said their information confirmed a report in the Abu Dhabi newspaper Al Itihad that Mr. Gemayel and Mr. Mubarak had met.

But Egyptian official spokesmen and a senior official of the Lebanese diplomatic mission in Cairo said they could not confirm rumours that Mr. Gemayel spent a few hours here early on Tuesday.

The diplomats said both governments were apparently being secretive because news of the talks might embarrass Mr. Gemayel, whose government has close links with Syria and severed ties with Egypt over its 1979 treaty with Israel.

Lebanon and Egypt do not have official relations, although Lebanon has a diplomatic "interests section" in Cairo working under the French flag.

Mr. Mubarak, in a speech a week ago, urged other Arab states to "keep their hands off Lebanon," apparently seeking to bolster that country's independence from foreign pressure.

Syria, the most influential outside power in Lebanon, is one of the staunchest opponents of demands among Arab states for Egypt's readmission to the Arab League.

Bomb hoaxes keep tension high in Sri Lanka capital

COLOMBO (R) — Bomb hoaxes kept tension high in the Sri Lankan capital already edgy from two bombings blamed on separatist guerrillas that have killed 28 people in the past seven days.

Extra security precautions were imposed at government and private buildings, and government leaders warned of more attacks.

Security officers on Friday began examining handbags and parcels being carried into government and some private office buildings.

Bomb disposal experts rushed

to a building housing Air Lanka headquarters and other government offices, and hundreds of workers were evacuated following a telephoned bomb threat but no device was found.

Another anonymous telephone call brought the experts to a bank but all they found was a parcel containing banana skins.

An Air Lanka TriStar was ripped open by a bomb at Colombo airport last Saturday and 16 people were killed, including 13 foreigners. About 100 were injured.

New Latin America initiative fails to materialise in Costa Rica

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP) — Ten Latin American leaders dashed the hopes of Costa Rica's president for a new peace initiative in Central America by ending a meeting in San Jose without producing any statements.

The meeting Thursday night, arranged by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez after his inauguration, was aimed at reviving peace talks.

Mr. Arias, a 45-year-old lawyer and son of a former Costa Rican president, vowed to "work with-

out rest for peace and democracy in Central America."

He called June 6, the deadline for Central American countries to sign the Contadora peace plan, "a sacred date."

Mr. Arias had said several days ago he expected the conference to produce a joint statement supporting the Contadora peace talks, and officials of Costa Rica's Foreign Ministry reportedly lobbied hard on Wednesday among Latin American leaders for such a statement.

Oil use registers lowest growth in 10 years

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's consumption of oil in 1985 reached 2.82 million tonnes, registering an increase of 0.6 million tonnes from 2.76 million tonnes consumed in 1985, according to the 1985 annual report published by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

The report, excerpts of which were carried by the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the 0.6 million-tonne annual increase was the lowest growth rate in oil consumption registered in Jordan in the past 10 years.

The report attributed the decline in growth rate to several factors, foremost among which were: stable local economic development, the national energy conservation policy, increasing use of solar energy and the adoption of summer time in 1985.

Jordan's average individual consumption of energy in 1985 was the equivalent of 1,049 kilograms compared to 1,064 kilograms in 1984, according to the report. It said the figures indicate that the growth in energy consumption was lower than the growth in population.

The 1985 consumption of electricity in Jordan registered an increase. The 1985 figure was 2,151 gigawatt hours (gwh) compared to 1944 gwh in 1984, the report said. The increase represents a 10.5 per cent growth in electricity consumption. The average individual consumption of electricity reached 928 kilowatt hours (kwh) compared to 873 kwh in 1984, the report added.

A breakdown of the figures given in the report showed that the transport sector remained the largest consumer of imported oil, accounting for 41 per cent of the total quantity of oil used in 1985. The electricity sector came next with 25 per cent, the industrial sector accounted for 16 per cent and the domestic sector consumed 12 per cent.

The Kingdom's imports of primary energy source — crude oil — underwent a remarkable development, the report said. It pointed out that there was an increasing trend towards importing heavy oil and processing it locally for lubrication purposes and transforming it to "white" products. The trend, the report said, is becoming stronger in Jordan after the Kingdom heavily depended on crude oil in the past.

Jordan has also reorganised its imports of crude oil and now Iraq supplies about one third of the Kingdom's total imports of crude oil, the report said. The Iraqi supplies of crude are in line with a trade exchange agreement between Jordan and Iraq under which Iraq supplies oil in exchange for Jordanian-produced goods.

The total imports of crude oil for 1985 was 2,484 million tonnes compared with 2,616 million tonnes in the year 1984, according to the report. The figure represents a decline of about five per cent and resulted from the switch to heavy oil from crude oil, it said.

The Kingdom's total imports of energy-related goods were the equivalent of 2.83 million tonnes of oil in 1985 compared to 2.76 million tonnes of oil in 1984, indicating of 0.5 per cent growth.

The cost of imported oil in 1985 amounted to \$603 million compared with \$612 million in 1984 — a 1.5 per cent decrease in costs despite the 4.5 per cent increase in imports.

The report said the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources has made intensive efforts to rationalise energy consumption and conducted a study in the country's major 10 industries.

The results of the study were encouraging and indicated that there was a possibility for saving \$3 million annually.

A ministry technical team also conducted several studies for rationalising energy consumption in many small factories and commercial organisations, hotels, hospitals and in the transport sector, the report said.

Libyan leader warns Italy, Egypt

LONDON (Agencies) — Colonel Muammar Qadhafi, saying Libya would attack any country displaying hostility or encouraging attacks against it, has singled out Italy and Egypt as possible targets.

In a speech in Benghazi Thursday night, he said Libya would answer violence with violence, following "the example of America."

"From now on, vis-a-vis Egypt, Italy and any country which we consider in a hostile position to us, we will treat as America treats the world now," he said, in reference to last month's U.S. air raids on Tripoli and Benghazi.

"Let Egypt understand that if we smell from it any action which is directed against us, houses for terrorists, meetings of terrorists, statements of terrorists or training for terrorists, we will attack it militarily, just as America does," Col. Qadhafi said.

Nor would Libya "turn a blind eye to any new U.S. campaigns from Italy," he said, adding that the U.S. Sixth Fleet, which uses Italian ports, could be destroyed by Libyan "suicide operations."

"We are still saving our military force," Col. Qadhafi said, "and we are still avoiding a mad confrontation of this kind. But when there is a case of extreme necessity we can do this."

He said his country's revolutionary command had decided to arm cities along the Mediterranean to transform the coast into "a line of fire and a confrontation line."

"If the Americans land on the Libyan coast, they will burn, they will die," he said.

"Ask for one million Libyans to be ready to fight in cities and what is requested is that each one of you pays the price of a rifle, the price of a Kalashnikov rifle."

He also called on Cyprus to close down British military bases on the island, on Italy to shut American bases and warned "we will do best to attack military bases" on Gibraltar, a British dependency.

The U.S. planes that bombed Libya on April 15 took off from bases in Britain.

Cruise attack will be 'countered'

Some U.S. news reports have said that U.S. military leaders, in contingency planning for another strike against Libya, were considering the use of cruise missiles armed with conventional warheads. Reagan administration officials have said there are no plans for more military action against Libya.

"The leader of the revolution Col. Qadhafi pointed out that in the eventuality of America and its allies using cruise missiles, deterrence would become the Soviet

Union's responsibility for the maintenance of peace and it would become the Soviet Union's duty to silence submarines with anti-cruise missiles," said the official Libyan news agency, JANA.

"This is one of the tasks of the Soviet Union as a superpower working with America with military force to maintain world peace," JANA quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying Thursday night.

Referring to the United States, Col. Qadhafi also said, according to JANA: "They started now to think of using cruise missiles... to hell with cruise missiles. We do not fear bombers... our will is stronger than steel."

Message to U.N.

Libya, denouncing a Tokyo summit statement on terrorism as tantamount to a declaration of war, has also alleged on the United Nations to prevent aggression against the Libyan people.

The call was made in a message from the Libyan Foreign Ministry to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and broadcast on Libyan Television Wednesday night.

It said the summit statement showed "the USA and its partners are determined to continue their aggression against Libya — by threatening to wage war against it under the pretext of eliminating terrorism and by isolating Libya politically and economically."

The leaders of the United States, Britain, Canada, West Ger-

many, France, Italy and Japan at a summit in Tokyo announced measures against states sponsoring or supporting "terrorism" and named Libya as one of them.

The Libyan message said the Tokyo summit declaration was "irrefutable proof of the U.S. intention and determination to continue the aggression against Libya."

The statement asked Mr. Perez de Cuellar to take appropriate measures under the U.N. charter "to repulse the U.S.-NATO aggression against the people of Libya."

Soviet warning

In Moscow, Soviet Defence Minister Sergei Sokolov told the armed forces on Friday to be vigilant because of recent U.S. actions, notably the air raids on Libya.

He was writing in the Communist Party daily Pravda on the 41st anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany in World War II. Mr. Sokolov said Soviet troops were ready at all times to repel any attack from "imperialist" forces led by the United States.

He said recent actions by the United States, such as the raids on Libya, showed that it was prepared to flout international law and was "playing with fire."

"Soviet forces recognise that in these difficult international conditions their primary task is to increase vigilance... and perfect military readiness," he said.

U.S. admits hitting Libyan civilians

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Pentagon has admitted that some U.S. bombs missed their intended Libyan targets and blasted civilian areas in the April 15 air raid on the cities of Tripoli and Benghazi.

But in a brief final report on the pre-dawn attack, the Defence Department said on Thursday only one or two per cent of the bombs hit civilian areas, and again insisted the raid was a success.

Some private U.S. analysts have criticised the results, partially revealed on Libyan Television, and said damage to civilian areas by laser-guided "smart" bombs was unacceptable.

The Pentagon never said how many of the 227-kilogramme, 340-kilogramme and 907-kilogramme bombs were dropped by more than two dozen jets. Libya said at least 43 people died and more than 100 were injured in the pre-dawn attack.

"Only one or two per cent of the bombs impacted in civilian areas," Thursday's report said.

Of those bombs that did not impact in the target area, three were probably from one F-111 (fighter plane) and it seems likely they impacted in the vicinity of the French embassy (in Tripoli).

"The results of the strike met the established objectives. All targets were hit and all targets received very appreciable damage," it added.

The Defence Department said last month it did not know if the damage to civilian areas was caused by bombs or by Libyan anti-aircraft missiles which missed U.S. aircraft and fell back to earth.

"Two other bombs were near-misses from the attack on the Benghazi barracks. These fell some 700 yards off their target and damaged two civilian houses plus some adjacent walls and out-buildings," Thursday's report said.

Former President Jimmy Carter on Thursday criticised the attack against Libya, saying it probably increased the "terrorist" threat, boosted Colonel Muammar Qadhafi's stature and damaged the Western alliance.

"To use aircraft carriers and bombers is not the proper way to restrain terrorism," Mr. Carter said on U.S. television. "There are ways to deal with terrorism without giving the terrorists the victories they want."

He said the U.S. attack on Libya, "boosted Qadhafi considerably in his stature in much of the world compared to what he was before."

A former Libyan prime minister was quoted as saying on Friday Libya lost 300 troops in the U.S. air raids and made up the story that his adopted daughter was killed to convince Libyans he was sharing in their grief.

Abdul Hamid Bakouh, who was prime minister when Col. Qadhafi seized power in 1969, told the Egyptian daily Al-Ahram that 300 Libyan soldiers were killed and 50 military aircraft were destroyed in the April 15 attacks.

War on Libya news 'leaks' reveals U.S. administration rift

By Christopher Hanson

Reuter

WASHINGTON — A warning from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) that reporters could face trial for publishing "leaked" Libyan cables intercepted by U.S. intelligence has pointed to a Reagan administration rift over the proper scope of secrecy.

U.S. spy agencies are intent on guarding intelligence sources. But other administration officials believe those sources should be compromised at times through news leaks to persuade the public that a policy such as the April 15 U.S. bombing of Libya is justified.

The Washington Post and Newsweek magazine, which the Post reported this week have been threatened with prosecution for printing leaked excerpts from official Libyan cables, are caught in the middle.

Analysts including Vermont Democrat Patrick Leahy, vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, say putting journalists on trial treats a symptom rather than the basic problem: That officials frequently leak information, reflecting government disputes over what should be disclosed.

U.S. officials, speaking anonymously, told the Post and Newsweek last month that diplomatic cables to and from Tripoli had been intercepted and decoded, revealing that Libya had directed the April 5 bombing of a West Berlin nightclub.

Newsweek was told U.S. intelligence had intercepted a mes-

sage ordering its agents in Europe to "prepare to carry out the plan."

The magazine reported on the leak in an April 7 article widely quoted around the world.

Following the U.S. bombing raid on Libya, Washington Post reporter Bob Woodward, of Watergate fame, reported in detail on the interception of Libyan messages. It quoted a decoded cable from Libya's East Berlin People's Bureau (embassy) on the day of the nightclub blast predicting Tripoli would "be very happy with the headlines tomorrow."

U.S. intelligence sources told Reuters the leaks had been "very damaging" to U.S. security because Tripoli now would change its secret codes.

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The sources said a vital intelligence source had been compromised for political purposes: To convince world opinion an attack was warranted and Libya had been caught red-handed.

U.S. officials admitted privately that the secrets had been leaked to justify military action against Libya.

The CIA, which has been supporting use of lie detectors and other efforts to root out leakers, is now bringing pressure against news organisations which receive the leaks.

The Washington Post reported on Tuesday that CIA Director William Casey had warned the Post that charges might be brought against it and Newsweek

because of what he termed "total violations" of a 1950 statute which bars disclosure of classified data on codes, ciphers and communications intelligence.

No news organisation has ever been tried for breaching the statute, under which spy Christopher Boyce was convicted for selling sensitive U.S. spy satellite data to the Soviet Union.

A Justice Department spokesman told Reuters a journalist convicted under the statute could face up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Mr. Casey told Post Editor Benjamin Bradlee that the New York Times, the Washington Times and Time magazine might face trial for breaching the statute in other, unspecified articles involving news releases, the Post reported.

Mr. Casey also said the Post could be prosecuted if it published an article, now under preparation, which would provide details about a former U.S. intelligence codebreaker accused of spying for the Soviet Union.

The liberal American Civil Liberties Union said prosecuting the news media could violate constitutional protection of freedom of the press and stifle needed debate on national security issues.

Critics also argue that the most prominent disclosure of the sensitive data on Libya was President Reagan himself. He paraphrased the intercepted messages in a nationally televised speech denouncing the bombing raid on Libya.

But intelligence sources argued Mr. Reagan only mentioned the intercepts after Newsweek had disclosed the secrets.

U.K. again asks for news of Collett

BEIRUT (R) — Britain appealed again Friday for hard information on journalist Alec Collett, reportedly hanged by his kidnappers in Lebanon last month.

"It is a tragedy that his family is being subjected to this form of mental cruelty," Ambassador John Gray told reporters after talks at the Lebanese Foreign Ministry.

Mr. Gray appealed to Collett's captors "first of all to give us firm information about his fate and secondly, if he is alive, as we hope he is, to release him."

An underground group calling itself the Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Muslims last month released a videotape purporting to depict the hanging of the 64-year-old Briton, saying he was killed in retaliation for the April 15 British-backed U.S. bombing of Libya.

No body has been found and the person shown in the film has not been identified by Collett's colleagues in the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA).

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Thursday night he was "informed" the hanged man was Collett.

Collett, one of 22 foreigners missing in Lebanon, was on a writing assignment for UNRWA when he was kidnapped near Beirut in March last year.

The videotape was delivered to a Beirut newspaper as evidence that Collett was executed "as a British spy."

Mr. Perez de Cuellar told British correspondents prior to his scheduled departure for London on Saturday that the Collett question was among those he would discuss with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

He said that an aide had scrutinised an enhanced picture and thought it might be of Collett, but he himself was not so sure. He said he had known the British journalist for 15 years, whereas his aide did not know him personally.

The videotape depicted a man with plenty of dark hair, whereas Collett was grey and balding, Mr. Perez de Cuellar noted.

Protest against kidnappings

Academics marched silently in their hundreds Thursday to protest against two years of attacks on staff and students at the American University of Beirut (AUB).

Teachers, office staff and students suspended classes and walked through AUB's tree-lined campus on the seafloor in Muslim west Beirut after the university reported Professor Nabil Matar missing and possibly kidnapped, witnesses said.

The disappearance of the 37-year-old humanities professor, a Lebanese Christian, appeared to be the latest in a string of attacks on AUB staff and students that escalated last month with a spate of kidnappings and killings of foreigners.

The attacks have dealt a heavy blow to AUB, once the most prestigious university in the Middle East but now almost bereft of foreign teachers.

"Whoever commits these acts against the elite of the university, Lebanese or foreign, is a traitor who works for Lebanon's enemies," said Education Minister Selim Hoss.

Police said, meanwhile, they had no fresh news on the whereabouts of 84-year-old Frenchman Camille Sontag, a retired car salesman seized by gunmen in west Beirut Wednesday.

Sontag is the eldest of 22 foreigners missing and believed held by kidnappers in Lebanon.

The captives include American and Irish citizens employed by AUB and two Cypriots studying engineering at the university.

At least 25 AUB staff were among dozens of foreign diplomats, teachers, aid workers and journalists who fled Beirut last month after kidnappers shot dead a 60-year-old American librarian and a British professor employed at AUB.

Tehran 'becoming more hostile to Moscow'

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet News Agency TASS has said Iran was adopting an increasingly aggressive stand against Moscow in encouraging guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government.

A dispatch described by diplomats as unusually critical of Iran's foreign policy said Tehran's involvement was growing just as negotiations to end the six-year-old war were reaching a delicate stage.

"Artificially generated anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan speeches by bandits based in Iran testify to the increasingly aggressive course of the present Iranian leadership," it said.

"Right-wing Iranian leaders would like to influence Afghan policy, to dictate what kind of path it should take and what kind of government there should be."

TASS said Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi had recently shown "pan-Islamic tendencies" which were harmful to attempts at securing peace in the region.

It said the latest round of U.N.-sponsored indirect talks in Geneva involving Pakistan and Afghanistan had reached "an especially responsible stage."

"One cannot but notice that the current anti-Soviet and anti-Afghan racket in Iran is being blown up at a time when the conditions are right for achieving progress in regulating political affairs around Afghanistan."

To: Victoria Gamboa from the Philippines

Unless you report back to your sponsor within ten days you will be liable to prosecution under Article 5A of the Penal Code.

TV & RADIO

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Committee on 5-year plan concludes meeting

Ministries discuss spending, projects in new development programme

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-day meeting of the 1986-1990 five-year development plan committee has concluded at the University of Jordan and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who chaired the meeting, delivered an address to the final session in which he urged all sectors in various governorates to coordinate their plans and to work in concert with the central committee in the process of implementing the new development plan and its projects.

Prince Hassan referred to the idea of setting up a national data centre which, he said, would serve the goals of development. Prince Hassan said incentives and guidance should be given to farmers to help them increase production. Proper use of natural resources, soil and water and sound marketing policies can all lead to success in the agricultural sector, Prince Hassan said.

Discussing tourism, Prince Hassan said that the improvement of hotels, other services and facilities and establishing free zones could all help market Jordan's numerous tourist and archaeological sites.

'Pockets of poverty'

Prince Hassan referred to the need for conducting a social survey to determine the number and the conditions of needy families prior to introducing plans for helping the nation end "pockets of poverty." Prince Hassan said that nearly 4,000 projects will be implemented within the five-year plan, each at a cost of JD 5,000 to JD 50,000 and in various regions of the Kingdom. These projects, he said, should create opportunities for many needy families to improve their standard of living.

Prince Hassan said that periodic meetings among various sectors implementing the five-year plan should be held and that positive atmosphere should be available to allow free discussion and participation by all sectors and organisations.

In his address to the closing session, which was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and Minister of Planning Taher Kana'an, Prince Hassan voiced deep appreciation to the committee members for their efforts in preparing the five-year plan.

Earlier, the committee meeting was addressed by the prime minister who emphasised the government's keenness to allow the private sector to play a leading role in supporting development and the economy. The government will continue to support the private sector's enterprises and, in conjunction with the private sector, a total of 4,170 projects will be implemented in the Kingdom at a cost of JD 77 million, Mr. Rifai said. He went on to say that only 13 per cent of these projects will be implemented in the Amman region and the remainder will be distributed to various parts of the country.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan presides over the committee meetings for the 1986-1990 five-year development plan. The meetings at the University of Jordan were attended by Prime Minister

Zaid Al Rifai, Minister of Planning Taher Kana'an (second right) and representatives from government departments and ministries.

Unemployment

Referring to unemployment, the prime minister said that 40,000 people in Jordan are now unemployed and that the government has received job applications from 22,000 people. Mr. Rifai said that the problem could be solved if those who are unemployed would accept work in agriculture and other fields. The government cannot create 22,000 jobs for clerks in government offices just to absorb the unemployed who are influenced by wrong social concepts which lie behind the unemployment situation in the country, the prime minister said.

At present, Mr. Rifai continued, there are 100,000 jobs in the agricultural sector but no Jordanians are willing to take them and farming is left to non-Jordanian labourers.

The Ministry of Higher Education, the prime minister said, is currently preparing a list of jobs required for the local Jordanian market and will soon distribute it to secondary schools to enable students to choose subjects which could lead to successful careers.

Working papers

The committee members discussed a total of 15 working papers dealing with water, agriculture, municipal affairs, education, health, construction, energy, tourism, trade, industry and communications.

Dr. Munther Haddadin, president of the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), presented a working paper and said water projects to be implemented in the new plan will cost JD 166 million. He said that the plan provides for increasing arable land in Jordan through stepping-up irrigation schemes, distributing water and sto-

ring water in dams and wadis. These projects will cost JD 114 million, Dr. Haddadin said.

Higher education

Dr. Ahmad Al Tal, under secretary of the Ministry of Higher Education, presented a paper on his ministry's plans with regard to higher education and community colleges in the Kingdom. At present 27,205 students are studying at 52 private and public community colleges and 25,929 others are students at the three Jordanian universities, Dr. Tal pointed out. He said that his ministry's new plan provides for guiding students towards useful careers for themselves and their community. He said that the ministry will spend JD 81 million over the coming five years to develop higher education in the country.

Health

Dr. Suleiman Subeishi, the under secretary of the Ministry of Health, presented a paper in which he outlined primary health services to be carried out in the country. He said this would be done through expanding and enlarging the operations of health centres and improving the level of medical services. The Health Ministry, Dr. Subeishi continued, plans to introduce a national health service, improving first aid, controlling the drug manufacturing industry and promoting the work of existing hospitals and establishing new ones.

Public works

Mr. Daoud Khalaf, in the

Jordan draws up resolution for WHO assembly meeting

GENEVA (Petra) — Jordan has prepared a draft resolution for submission to the 39th meeting of the World Health Organisation (WHO) General Assembly in Geneva. The resolution condemns Israel for refusing to implement the world organisation's resolutions regarding health affairs in territories occupied since 1967. The draft resolution is being submitted by Jordan's delegation to the conference led by Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, who has been elected chairman of the 39th meeting.

The resolution refers in particular to Israel's refusal to allow the Arab people to set up health centres and its refusal to allow WHO's fact finding missions to visit to the occupied territories. The two week WHO meetings are discussing health issues around the world and the subject of health for all by the year 2000 among other subjects.

The Jordanian delegation includes three other members, all officials from the Health Ministry.

Religious leaders urge Muslims to observe

Islamic teachings as Ramadan begins

AMMAN (J.T.) — Friday marked the first day of the holy month of Ramadan during which Muslims fast in implementation of the tenets of Islamic religion.

The beginning of fasting was announced by Chief Islamic Justice Mohammad Mheilan who explained the meanings of fasting in a message to the nation and urged all Muslims to abide by rules concerning the holy month. Sheikh Mheilan also wished the Arabs and the Islamic nation success in their endeavours to regain their usurped holy lands.

On the occasion, the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs issued a statement urging Muslims to seize the opportunity of this month to show true brotherhood and cooperation in application of the teachings of Islam.

Through total commitment to religion and through cooperation, sacrifice and diligence, the Muslim nation can achieve victory and liberate its lands and save its holy places from Israeli occupation, the statement said.

It went on to say that Ramadan should be devoted to prayers and self-denial which are essential elements for enabling Muslims to confront challenges and stand up to common enemies who, the statement said, can only understand the language of force.

Fasting, in accordance with Islamic theology, is a practice that strengthens and purifies man's soul and body and reminds him of the hunger of the poor and the needy.

According to Islamic scholars, fasting helps to cleanse man's digestive system.

Fasting, which is an old Eastern practice in many Asian countries, teaches humans control over their bodies and spirit through the hardship of refraining from eating, drinking or smoking from dawn to dusk.

Muslims are expected to observe the month with full adherence to Islamic rituals of prayers, and observance of all ethical values, including visiting and helping the poor and sick.

Prophet Mohammad preached minimum eating during the month, especially at breakfast time.

Throughout Ramadan, all liquor stores, bars, nightclubs and cafes remain closed while restaurants, as a rule, will not open during the daytime.

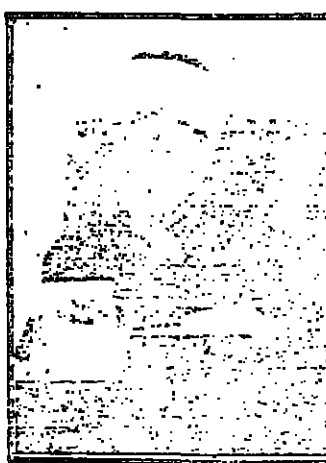
The Ministry of Supply has taken measures to ensure the availability of sufficient supplies of basic commodities and has warned merchants against violations of supply regulations.

King receives cables

On the occasion of the start of Ramadan, His Majesty King Hussein received cables of congratulations from the kings, presidents and emirs of Arab, Islamic and friendly countries. The cables from the leaders expressed best wishes to the King for continuing good health and happiness and progress for the Islamic nation.

The cables were received from King Hassan II of Morocco, Sultan Qaboos of Oman, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, President Ahmad Abdullah Abderemane of the Comoros Islands, President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan and the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani. Among those sending cables to the King were also the Emir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sheikh Rashid Bin Al Maktoum, Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi and President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom of the Maldives.

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs also announced that it is organising a Ramadan bazaar in Independence Street and the bazaar will remain open throughout the holy month.



Mohammad Mheilan

amic Affairs also announced that it is organising a Ramadan bazaar in Independence Street and the bazaar will remain open throughout the holy month.

The bazaar is organised in cooperation with a number of government departments and private organisations and it displays Islamic books and there is a wing demonstrating local manufactured products in addition to a section for consumer products and other commodities.

The proceeds of the bazaar will benefit the Zakat (charity) fund and will be distributed to needy and poor families during Ramadan.

Senior officials brief U.N. press team on Israeli malpractices

AMMAN (Petra) — A United Nations press delegation, now on a fact-finding tour of the Middle East, has met with Jordanian officials and discussed the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

The mission members first met with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin who spoke about Jordan's continued help to the Arab people under Israeli rule in the economic, educational, health and social fields and through the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee.

The minister spoke in detail about Israel's repressive measures against the Arab inhabitants on the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip and he discussed Israel's illegal practices and its drive to evict the indigenous population and to establish Jewish settlements on Arab territory.

The Israelis, he said, are continuously introducing changes to the demographic and geographic character of the Arab territory and are imposing total control over the Arab territory's economy. Jordan, the minister continued, is helping the Palestinians by allowing 50 per cent of their crops to cross the bridges on the River Jordan on their way to be marketed in the East Bank and other Arab countries. He also mentioned that Jordan is allowing half of the occupied territories' industrial products to be marketed in the same way in a bid to help support the Palestinian people.

Mr. Dudin criticised Israeli leaders who, he said, keep bragging about their desire for peace and at the same time completely ignore United Nations resolutions.

The United Nations mission later met with Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib who also spoke about the situation in the Middle East, and Israel's illegal practices and human rights violations.

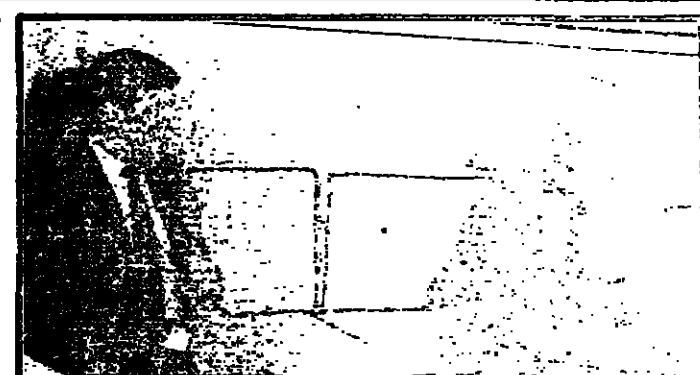
He said that a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands is necessary for the establishment of peace in the region. The mission members, who are expected to meet other Jordanian officials, later held a meeting with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

Head-on collision claims three lives, injures four

MAFRAQ (J.T.) — Three people were killed and four others injured in a road accident which occurred on the Mafraq-Irbid road Thursday. A report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper said that the accident involved a pick-up truck, heading for Irbid from Mafraq, which collided with a small car with Saudi number plate and moving in the opposite direction.

Fire in Salt home

Another report said that a fire in Salt injured a woman and her child and caused damage to their home. The report said that a gas cylinder explosion was responsible for the fire.



His Majesty King Hussein Thursday receives Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen during his visit to Jordan in the course of a regional tour (Petra photo)

Finnish foreign minister continues Mideast tour after talks with King, Prince Hassan

AMMAN (Petra) — Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen is now in Turkey after winding up a three-day visit to Jordan. In a pre-departure statement, the Finnish minister described his talks as successful and fruitful and also said that he had heard Jordanian views on developments in the Middle East region. He said that Finland realises that Jordan has a vital role to play in the region.

Mr. Vayrynen said that he delivered a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Finnish President Mauno Koivisto and another message to Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

The Finnish minister delivered the message at an audience at the Royal Court on Thursday afternoon in the presence of Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Mr. Masri and Finland's

Ambassador to Jordan Jurkko Aimonen.

The Finnish minister was later received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan who discussed Jordanian-Finnish relations.

He also had talks with Minister of Trade and Industry Rajai Al Muasher. The Finnish minister told a news conference that trade between the two countries was small, but he was encouraging Jordan to export more to Finland while Finnish construction and development companies were eager to help Jordan.

Mr. Vayrynen earlier visited Lebanon and Syria to acquaint himself with Middle East problems and to demonstrate support for nearly 1,000 Finnish troops on peacekeeping duties with United Nations contingents in the area.

Jerash graduates People's Army cadets

JERASH (Petra) — The first batch of People's Army cadets in Jerash District Governorate graduated at a ceremony held on Thursday. The graduates performed some practical skills which included gun dismantling and reassembling, grenade throwing and house storming. The commander of the People's Army presented service books to the graduates and prizes to the winners at the end of the ceremony.



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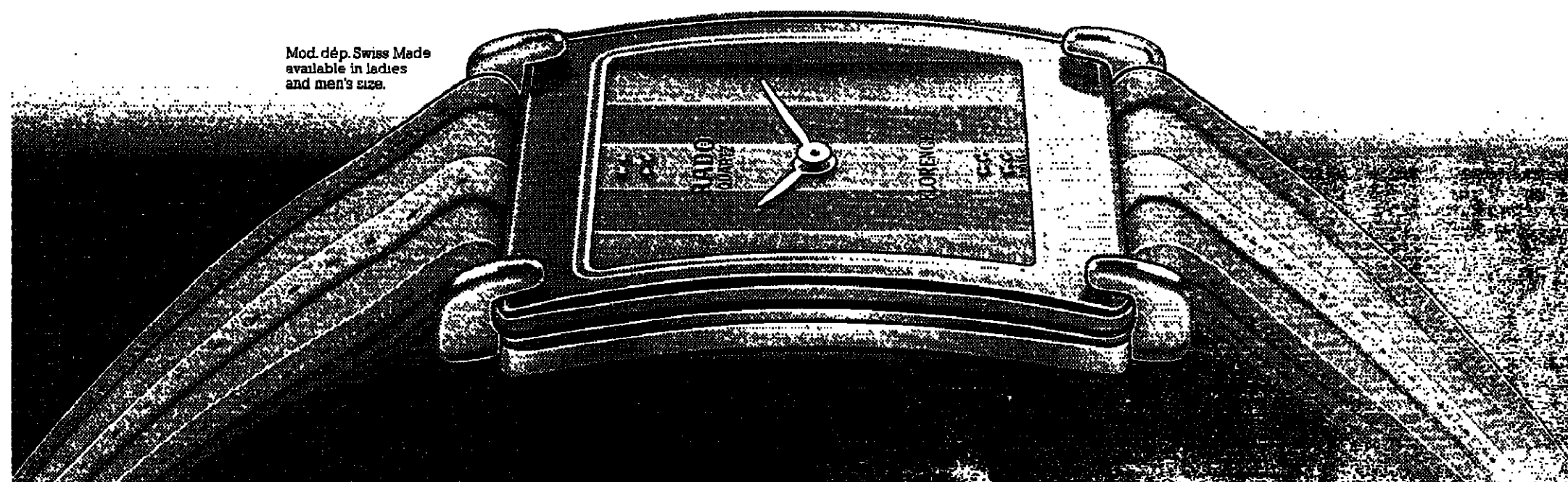
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'U.S. Mideast policy must define American interests in the region and communicate directly with all parties'

The following interview with the Rev. Jesse Jackson was conducted in Washington recently by Hanna Senora, the editor of the Palestinian newspaper Al Fajr, and Uri Avnery, editor of the Israeli magazine Haolam Hazeh. The interview was edited by Dr. James Zogby, president of the Washington-based Arab American Institute.

SENORA: I'd like to start by saying that I have been following your efforts, especially during the last election, and I know that you are preparing for the coming one. What do you plan to do in the next few years with the Democratic Party position toward the Middle East, and particularly the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?

Jackson: We shall continue to fight for a comprehensive peace policy in the Middle East, as opposed to the war policy of the Reagan Administration. Peace, to be lasting, must have justice at its core. Peace is not the absence of war. Peace is the presence of justice. To have justice, there must be due consideration for the humanity of the people caught in that conflict, as well as the role that the superpowers play outside of that conflict.

We take a position that peace must be based on the right of both Israelis and Palestinians to exist, with security, within recognised boundaries, and with some rules for their relationship. If you do not take the position of mutual recognition, mutual respect and co-existence, the other premise is a permanent and terminal state of war. We must opt for a peace policy.

And so, just as we support Israel's right to security within internationally recognised boundaries, we support a state for the Palestinian people, so they might have their statehood, their selfhood. We also believe that there must be a new commitment to Lebanon. Just as we once were committed to rebuilding Europe and Japan, today we need the same commitment to rebuild Lebanon and to protect its territorial integrity.

We must not take a cynical, hopeless view of the Middle East crisis. We cannot stop having a conscience and feeling our responsibility for the people of the Middle East because so many have died. Finally, we promote normalisation trade ties with the Arab World.

Since the superpowers are deeply involved, using surrogates to do their bidding, we believe that there must be a comprehensive Middle-East "peace" summit where both superpowers are involved. That may have been less of a fact 10 years ago, but it's very much a fact now.

Senora: The peace talks proposed in Amman last February floundered on the issues of self-determination for and representation of the Palestinian people. How would you resolve this issue?

Jackson: The issue of selfhood and statehood for the Palestinian people is the core of the Middle East problem as we now know it. And so our U.S. policy and the policy of the Israeli government of not talking to the PLO — the Palestinian government-in-exile — is not an effective policy because if you don't talk, you don't act. If you don't act, you don't change things. The no-talk policy is a policy that deteriorates daily. The most basic link to civilisation is communication. We ought not to give up that link. Communication is the key to peace.

Even if the PLO is perceived to be an enemy, Jesus said that our onus should be to talk with your enemy. You should love your enemy. What was the wisdom of that recommendation?

One, if you love your enemy, you will communicate with your enemy. Secondly, if you love your enemy, you can neutralise your enemy. Thirdly, if you communicate with your enemy, you may convert your enemy. Fourthly, you may discover that you, enemy your enemy. And fifthly, therefore, when your enemies cease to be your enemies and you redefine your relationship, the result is peace.

So we need to talk and show that much of a will. The U.S. government, I think, needs to recognise the PLO. The PLO and Israel need to recognise each other in a mutual recognition pact. And out of that recognition must grow some shared commitment to self-determination and self-development.

Senora: The Reagan Administration policy in the Middle East is perceived to be one of "crisis management." How do you perceive it?

Jackson: The Reagan Administration looks upon the Middle East cynically. First of all, the President has never been to the region. The President himself has no personal sense of the region. He does know that we did send troops there against the advice of many, that many were killed, and that those who survived left in a

hurry, with some sense of shame among Americans. We do know that hostages remain and we cannot get them out militarily, and that we have not gotten them out diplomatically. We do know that six years later, more money has been invested, more guns have been bought, more people have been killed, yet relations are worse.

All this is because indeed Reagan is not a manager and his non-management results in crisis management. One must say, however, one may disagree with Carter, that he believed that there could be peace in the Middle East. You may agree or disagree with his formula, but he believed it was possible. As opposed to using normal diplomatic channels, he, with Presidential initiative, convened two strong rival forces — Begin and Sadat — and used the strength and prestige of the office to hammer out an agreement.

What was missing in that agreement were the concerns and voice of the Palestinians. At least it was a major step toward a mutually respectful relationship. The Reagan Administration should have built upon Camp David by including the locked-out people of the Middle East, namely the Palestinians. But the Reagan Administration is not only not communicating with the Palestinians, they're not communicating with the Syrians, another nation whose border is contiguous with Israel. Syria cannot be dealt out of the Middle East peace equation. So our military entree failed, and our diplomatic entree has been inadequate. The (U.S.) Administration is not projecting a Middle East peace policy that is comprehensive.

Senora: If you were president now, what would you do?

Jackson: First of all, I would define our nation's vested interests in the region. First and foremost, we have a vested interest in the humanity of the region's 150 million people. Also, we have an interest geopolitically in the region and in its energy sources. To protect our interests, we must be aggressive in

Israel cannot have peace with Palestinians under occupation; Palestinians will never rest under occupation.

creating a formula that would end wars in the region that, in fact, threaten the interests of all.

So I would communicate directly with the Israelis. I would communicate directly with all the Arabs — the Syrians, the Jordanians, the Egyptians, the Saudis, the Palestinians — and I would argue the case that Israel stands more to gain, and the PLO stands more to gain, from a mutual recognition policy than from a mutual non-recognition policy, which is where they are now.

I am convinced that the prestige of the White House being brought to bear would make both Israelis and Palestinians risk trusting each other, through that conduit, more than they would ever trust each other directly.

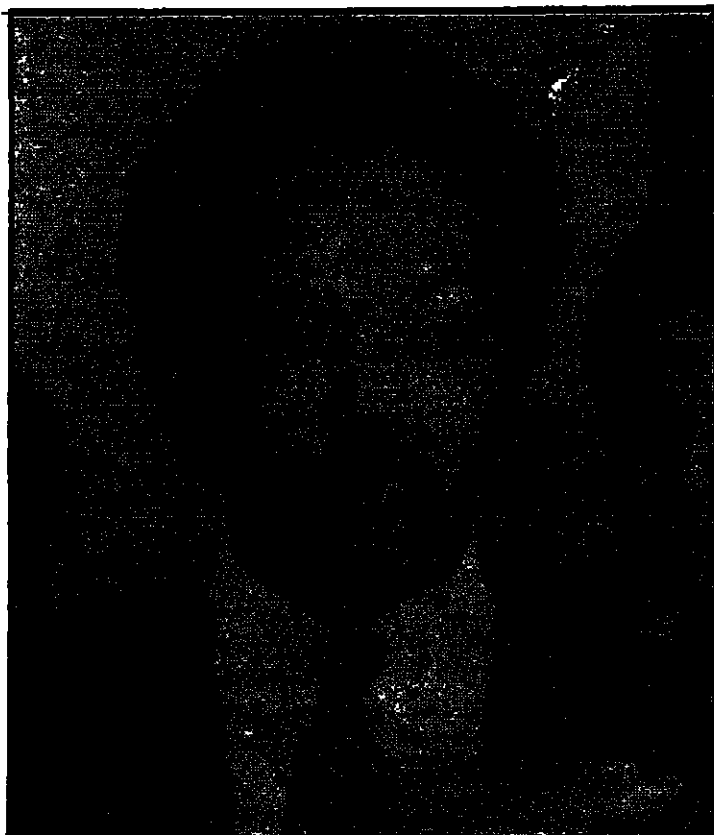
So in essence, America's role should be that of a mediator, a superpower, a referee, a nation capable of being an ally to both. I believe that if we ever give diplomacy a chance, we can relieve both peoples of this permanent state of war. Israel cannot have peace with Palestinians under occupation; Palestinians will never rest under occupation.

Right now, both people are locked into a stranglehold unto death. The challenge we have is to break that stranglehold. Maybe neither has the security to free each other. Both must hold each other. That's why America becomes important. We become the force that both can build a relationship with. We can help alter the relationship and relieve them of the stranglehold.

Given the political reality in this country, the American Jewish community must see their vested interests in the proposition that Israel's security lies in security for the Palestinians. The insecurity of the Palestinians puts both of them into a permanent state of war. And war, of course, takes away the security of both groups. That's why there must be a new direction and a new policy.

Uri Avnery: There are certain suspicions among the Israeli public about your role. Could you comment on this?

Jackson: It is unfair, frankly. In America, one can be labeled anti-Semitic so easily when all the



'Peace to be lasting, must be comprehensive. Peace is not the absence of war. Peace is the presence of justice. To have justice, there must be due consideration for the humanity of the people caught in that conflict, as well as the role that the superpowers play outside of that conflict.'

time one's only disagreement is on the best way to reach peace. If the American public just had the freedom that's expressed in the Knesset, where we could challenge each other's judgment but not each other's integrity, the whole relationship would be much healthier. There's very little public debate in the American community about the options available to us. So on one level, I'm fighting for our country to have at least as much of a democratic discussion as exists in the Knesset.

In 1978, I believe it was, Frank Collins and his Nazis were planning to march on Skokie, Illinois (a town outside Chicago where many Jewish concentration camp survivors reside). Many accused the Jewish community of overreacting to the American Civil Liberties Union's defending Collins' right to march in Skokie. I signed that Collins was playing upon fears, that he was playing upon the limits of free speech that we enjoy in this country. Although he had the right to march in Skokie, he was using that right for the wrong reason. He actually was re-opening old wounds and reviving fears.

And so, as a matter of principle, we played the role in Skokie of expressing our solidarity with the Jewish people there and, for taking that stand, we were hailed as morally correct.

When (Carter's U.N. Ambassador) Andrew Young was fired for talking to (PLO official Zehdi) Terzi in 1979, we were invited by several Arab American groups to visit the Middle East. Attempting to be sensitive, we decided on our own to go to Israel. We went because we chose to. We were not welcomed by the head of state, Begin, as we were welcomed by the heads of state of several Arab countries.

While we were on that trip, we found that some people we had met in Skokie were also on the trip. We asked them to join our delegation, but they rejected this, and we did not follow their itinerary. They held a press conference at the King David Hotel and they gave the impression that they had somehow broken away from our delegation, that somehow we had lost control of our delegation. But they never were a part of our delegation in the first place. It was an attempt to sabotage our trip and to send back a bad message. So that trip met with a lot of controversy.

We went to the (occupied) West Bank and we received an overwhelming welcome, with people hoisting us onto their shoulders as they went down the street. In Israel, on the West Bank and in Jordan, we said the same thing: "There must be a mutual recognition policy if there is to be peace. There will be no peace on one side of the Jordan River until there is justice on both sides."

And we urged the estranged forces to talk it out and not fight it out. We said that to Teddy Kollek, and we said it on the West Bank.

Of course, for the fact that we went to the West Bank and that we showed concern for the humanity of the Palestinian people there, and particularly for the children in the camps, and the state of the occupation, we were degraded by some for having sympathy for Arabs. Well, I have sympathy for all suffering humanity. I have sympathy for Arabs and Jews who are trapped in a hammerlock unto death.

We went to Jordan the next day and as we walked across that bri-

dge to Jordan, and we saw the guns pointed at each other on both sides, I said again: "There will be no peace on one side of the Jordan River until there is justice on both sides."

We got to Lebanon and met with Arafat, and argued the case with him that he should remove any vagueness at this point about recognising Israel's right to exist. This was important, because not recognising Israel's existence as *de facto* was a psychological card, but it was a card that was drawing fire into his own back.

It was as if he had a bowl of soup, but the way the soup was turning, it was spilling onto his lap. In that sense it was a card not being holding. The fact was that he could take the moral initiative of a mutual recognition policy and therefore gain momentum.

The photo projected out of Lebanon was of us embracing. Well, if you go into a Japanese home, you "take" your shoes off. That's manners. That doesn't mean you endorse anything. It just means that they're people too. In the Middle East, people embrace and kiss on both sides. But there was an attempt to use that picture as some blind, or naive, or corrupt embrace, as it were, of everything Arafat ever said or did, without question. This was not the truth then, and still is not the truth.

I know that in politics, yesterday's terrorist is today's freedom fighter. (Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert) Mugabe is an example.

We determined to go to Egypt and to talk with Sadat. We talked a lot about Sadat's long, personal relationship with Arafat. Sadat had some tensions and disagreements with Arafat, some even going back to tensions when they were students in school together. Having said that, Sadat said he believed that Arafat's cause was just, that we should appeal to the American public to stop Israel's West Bank settlements, and that the West Bank settlements were a major impediment to peace as well as a violation of the Camp David agreements.

He asked me to appeal to Arafat to seize the moment, as he had seized the moment, and I agreed with him. So what he did was that he was so convinced that something would happen, he then sent me back to Lebanon in his own plane to meet Arafat. "I'll never forget it. The Egyptians got extraordinary rights to land in Lebanon because at that time, they had lost the right to land there. Soon we were back meeting with Arafat again, and Arafat was interested in our argument of a mutual recognition policy. He was insistent that we stay two days longer and go to Syria and meet with Assad in Syria. That's how I met Assad for the first time, and that helped me to get back (captured U.S. pilot Lt. Robert) Goodman several years later.

Arafat's big argument was that he wanted a chance to talk to the U.S. He couldn't make a move of substance toward Israel without getting some guarantee in return from the U.S. Begin was saying, "Even if they recognise us, it's irrelevant since we already recognise ourselves." It was clear, therefore, that there was a lot of truth in Arafat's argument that lent itself to making a move.

The thing Arafat was saying was that if the U.S. would play a role in assuring that any movement on (the PLO's) part meets with reasonable protection and security, then it's a practical thing. He was

reaching out to talk with us, but of course by then, we had a policy of not talking at all with the PLO.

I remember bringing back the notes of that conversation and sharing them with Robert Strauss, who was Carter's confidant at that time. Strauss thanked me and said, "Well, it's nothing new." The fact, however, was that there was a dynamic thing taking place. If we had had the diplomatic character to pursue the lead, something would have happened. Thousands of lives would have been saved. But for our intervention, we were dismissed as anti-Semitic, which was not fair, and was not accurate.

We went to Geneva last year at the time of the summit talks. The Jewish leadership worked to get the human rights question on the agenda of the summit conference. Even with all their protests at terminals of the Aeroflot airline, they couldn't get it on the agenda. But we had a personal meeting with Gorbachev and we put the issue on the agenda, because we thought that it was right to do so.

One way you measure the character of a particular nation, whether it is the Soviet Union or the United States, is by how it treats its minority citizens, whether Jews or Armenians in Russia or Blacks or Hispanics in this country. We believe you should measure human rights by one yardstick. So the perception that we're not concerned about Jewish people or communities is not accurate, and is unfair.

Avnery: I'm very sad about the deteriorating relationship between Jews and Blacks in this country. What do you think can be done to alleviate this situation?

Jackson: In many ways, Blacks have "grown up" in the last 20 years. We've come into our own as a people who were, at one time, reduced to a childlike state by slave and official apartheid and segregation. So now, as Blacks have become full citizens, first-class citizens, world citizens with the same legitimate aspirations that other freedom-loving people have, our allies must adjust themselves to our maturity.

Once, we saw ourselves as children and we accepted childlike treatment for a long time. Now that we are fully grown and we recognise what our responsibilities are, there is a lot of

... America's role should be that of a mediator, a superpower, a referee, a nation capable of being an ally to both.

pressure on everybody to make adjustments.

I think it's unfortunate that Blacks and Jews in this country in recent years have been involved in some tensions that have helped reduce communication. The aid that Jews gave to the Black leadership in the South was significant. Schwerner, Goodman and Cheyney (three civil rights activists murdered in the South in the 1960s) — two Jews and a Black — died together. But Blacks and Italians, and Blacks and a lot of other whites died together. That struggle, that crucifixion laid the prerequisite for the later resurrection.

But it never occurred to me that Jews shouldn't be doing anything but marching in the South. Why? Because fascists expressed disdain for Blacks and Jews. Many places had signs which said, "No Jews, niggers or dogs allowed." So Jews had as much of an obligation to march in the South as Blacks. After all, the Jewish experience with the totalitarian nature, the evil, of fascism is a very apparent one. So we marched together be-

cause we had a mutual reason to march.

As Blacks moved in after having been locked out, and sought upward mobility, they reached out for affirmative action, which is for us like reparations. We understood Israel's cry for reparations, which is like international affirmative action. So much was this understanding that Ralph Bunche helped with the founding of Israel. He was one of the negotiators in the whole process. And Blacks for the most part supported Israel's development and its right to exist, even with all the anxieties surrounding its development.

When it came time for our reparations, our affirmative action, some of the most vocal critics of the adjustments we were asking the social order to make for us — were Jewish citizens. It created a great deal of anxiety, anger — and hostility in some cases — and it revolved around the issue of quotas. The Jewish experience with quotas in Europe was a negative one. But to transfer that argument to this situation was not good, because in their situation, quotas were being used to set a ceiling to Jewish people's development. For us, the issue was creating a floor. We didn't have a problem with a ceiling. In most industries, we didn't have a floor. We don't support a ceiling either, but we do support a floor as the only way to get in.

Quotas were the last resort. The first step was saying, "segregation is illegal." The second one was, "stop discriminating." The third one was, "voluntary affirmative action." Then along came the Bakke case, with the argument of "reverse discrimination." And it pained us to see Jewish organisations joining in support of Bakke and making an alliance with some of our worst historical enemies. And now as a result of Bakke there is a noticeable decline in Black enrollment in graduate schools, in professional schools and in the professions. So we have been hurt by the pro-Bakke, anti-affirmative action forces too much. And this has become a source of tension between ourselves and the Jewish community.

But there's another issue on the international scale that concerns us, and that is the question of South Africa. Just as we sought to free ourselves, so now we seek to free South Africa from apartheid. We have challenged our own nation and all western nations in the name of democracy to stop selling arms, to stop investing and to stop trading with South Africa. We have urged Britain, Japan and all the allies to stop dealing with South Africa and yet Israel sells arms to South Africa. This is not an idea promoted by a few scholars somewhere. This has been known for more than 10 years, and is today a widely known fact.

Israel should take a strong, principled position on this issue, of not selling arms to South Africa. Israel should understand the implication of its selling arms to South Africa. If any African nation, such as Nigeria, were selling arms to the PLO, Israel would say it had the right to bomb that source of weapons to its enemies. We are as pained by Israel's selling arms to South Africa as Israel would be if Nigeria were selling arms to the PLO.

Also, we find that as our boycott against South Africa increases in effectiveness, South Africa is now taking those same materials, shipping them to Israel, and selling them through Israel to the U.S. Israel not only sells arms to South Africa, but also serves as an economic conduit to transfer South African goods. That's a source of great pain, and these practices undermine Israel's moral authority.

So I would hope that we would be so free to challenge Israel to stop selling arms to South Africa

(Continued on page 5)

LETTERS Sympathy

To Soviet children
From a Jordanian pupil, Lola Keilani

Nuclear explosions everywhere
People dying and their bodies scattered all around
Some in rivers
Some on the ground

Hunger and poverty in the air
Children crying everywhere
What they hoped for yesterday
Is nothing compared with today

Humanity is deteriorating now you'd like to stop
But don't know how clouds are gathered
And nothing is clear
You will sleep in continuous fear

هولاء من الأردن

Channel Two preview

Several changes for Ramadan

By J.H. Boteler

INDEED there are: a new comedy series, a boost for both drama and documentaries, a sudden increase in detectives and a terrible decimation of the soap-operas. All this will be dealt with shortly, but first:

Football

Although Minotti appears to have gone underground as far as I can ascertain, this afternoon has the big one on Channel One: Live from Wembley stadium, England, the F.A. Cup Final, between Liverpool and Everton. Yet another "Final of the Century," though this one has more claim than most to this boringly overworked label. Not only is it the first F.A. final showdown between these two fierce Merseyside rivals, it also pits together two teams who only a week ago could have won the championship. Liverpool took that, thereby deposing Everton, champions last year. Add to that the fact that Liverpool will be out to complete the notoriously difficult "double" achieved by only three teams in England this century — and the fact that Everton, robbed of this feat last year by Manchester United, will be determined to prevent them, then you have all the ingredients of a truly explosive match, though not, I hasten to add, on the terraces. Apart from the fact that the supporters of the two teams are remarkably well-behaved when they play each other, (since whole families are split down the middle this is hardly surprising — carving up your auntie with a broken milk bottle tends to lead to awkward silences at the dinner table —) but also there has never been any violence at an F.A. Cup Final. It is likely to be very closely contested, but should contain football of the highest quality. I'm rooting for Liverpool, if only for the fact that if any team of recent memory deserves to land the double, it is surely them. Now for more staple fare:

Comedies

Tonight continues with Duty Free, in which a day-trip to Duty Free finds Amy agreeing to deliver a suspicious-looking parcel for a Spaniard who explains that said parcel contains the ashes of his friend Pepe. Tomorrow (Sunday) Dad delivers a lecture on roosters in *Me And My Girl*, whilst 'Allo! 'Allo on Monday revolves around the barely believable scenario of a fake son stuffed with aspirins. Tuesday sees the start of a new series, *Amanda's*. Amanda Cartwright, outspoken, domineering and rude, runs a seaside hotel, along with her hopeless incompetent of a son, Marty. Marty has a whining socialite wife called Arlene, and there is also an idiotic chef, and a bellhop called Ando who can't speak English. Finally there is Mr. Mundy, a resident

guest who owns the mortgage on the property. If any of this sounds at all reminiscent of another celebrated comedy series, don't be surprised if the actual humour is of a slightly different standard. It would appear that the tapes of "Three's Company" did not arrive, so Wednesdays will continue for the present with *Emergency Room*. In *Don't Walk Up*, (Thursday), the landlord returns and moves in with the two doctors, causing Tom to beg his mother to take Dad back. On Friday Mr. Belvedere has to try to dissuade Kevin from giving up his studies in order to become a professional footballer.

Documentaries

Tonight sees the start of a new documentary series: *The Scientific Legacy Of The Arab World*. The first of the nine episodes serves as a general introduction to the series, which will attempt to show the importance of the Arab World as a historical and cultural power for centuries. It will also concentrate

TODAY

The F.A. Cup Final, Live from Wembley Stadium, England; Liverpool v. Everton. (on channel one)5.00
Duty Free8.30
The Scientific Legacy Of The Arab World9.00
Varieties9.30
Feature Film: From The Earth To The Moon10.20

SUNDAY

Me And My Girl8.30
The World Challenge9.10
The Master10.20

MONDAY

'Allo, 'Allo8.30
Heart Of The High Country 9.10
Murder, She Wrote10.20

TUESDAY

Amanda's8.30
Jordanian Artists9.00
The Brief9.10
The Equalizer10.20

WEDNESDAY

Emergency Room8.30
A Discussion With Islamic Scholars, Hosted By Mr. Karim Jarrar9.00
Alfred Hitchcock Presents9.30
Play: Voices In The Dark10.20

THURSDAY

Don't Wait Up8.30
Return To Eden9.10
Feature Film: (Undecided)10.20

FRIDAY

Mr. Belvedere8.30
Love And Marriage9.10
Hunter10.20

on such remarkable thinkers as Averroes, Avicenna, Alhacen and Al-Juarizmi. Tomorrow, (Sunday) has the second episode of *The World Challenge*, a late replacement last week for the advertised series "A Planet In The Making." The series studies the ways and means by which the developed and industrialised countries of the globe have either managed or failed to meet the demands of the underdeveloped countries. Unfortunately, but hardly surprisingly, the emphasis will be on the failures, as can be evinced by the title of the second episode: "Lost Opportunities." It concentrates on the Suez crisis of 1956, the attaining of independence by the Congo in 1960, and the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. All three examples will show how newly independent, ex-colonial powers, needing help to stand on their own feet, received the very opposite. Occasionally this series will look like a re-run of "End Of Empire," but this is unavoidable. However there do appear to be, judging from last week's episode, two serious drawbacks. The first is that the two narrators, Peter Ustinov and Patrick Watson, will indulge in mately school-room exchanges: "I didn't know that, Peter. Why was it?" "Oh well, I'll tell you."

This is irritating in the extreme, but far worse is the sheer mass of visual trickery employed by the programme. Old films from a backlot to the narrators, who are constantly being inverted and turned upside-down; geometric, multi-coloured shapes twist and gyrate, until they dissolve into a silhouette of Mr. Ustinov, with a map where his face should be. It is evident that some whizz-kid producer has just discovered a new box of tricks and can't get over it. The trouble is that the viewer, overawed and distracted by the pyrotechnical display before him, concentrates on this and thereby all too frequently misses what is being said; and it is the message, surely, that is of prime importance. It is ironic, as more and more people are coming to understand that one of the main failings in North-South relationships has been the North's nearsighted reliance on super-technology to solve the problems of the South, while ignoring the simpler grassroots remedies, that this programme tends to make the same disastrous error: electronic images are given reference over the simple spoken word. Having said this, the series promises to be highly instructive. Some of the messages may not be new: that does not mean they can't bear repeating again and again until certain people heed them.

"Discovery" (Wednesday) is, for this week at least, replaced by a special programme for Ramadan: a Discussion with a group of Islamic scholars conducted by Farouk Jarrar. This would also seem the right section to draw your attention to Tuesday's short pro-



Open the box, or take the money? Duty Free, tonight at 8.30.

Drama

I take back what I said last week concerning *Heart Of The High Country* (Monday). Bill is not "a decrepit old wreck." True, he may not be in the first flush of youth, and he may have a crock arm: but all-in-all he is A-OK. Definitely better than that sorry-faced wimp Ginger. Last week also had a character who actually smiled a lot and enjoyed life: Good-times Annie (though predictably she was not allowed to complete the episode). This week sees the concluding episode, and a few more twists of fate for Ceci, William and Olwen (who was conspicuous by her absence last week). Considering that it has only got to the mid-way point in its 13 episodes, *The Brief*, (Tuesday), looks as if things are going to get a lot worse before they can hope to get better. Samantha has now run out on Lucas, and can't be traced (And why does she want her passport?) Annika is heart-broken, and it is evident that her friend Leah is not altogether on the side of the angels. Anyway, this week Leah turns up dead, and nasty repercussions multiply for all concerned. Interestingly, last week struck the first false note in this excellent series. When Lucas suggested to Samantha's CND pal Janey that she might be being followed, she was totally amazed. In England, polytechnic lectures who double as CND activists assume that they are under surveillance as a matter of course — some would be rather offended if they thought that they weren't!

Alfred Hitchcock Presents another spine-chilling tale on Wednesday, and this is followed by a play called *Voices In The Dark*. The plot concerns Carol, who

spends her formative years lying in bed listening to her parents' incessant and acrimonious arguments, and finds in later life that she herself cannot adjust properly to a normal relationship of her own: a dilemma that is sadly all too common. Finally, Friday has another play in the *Love and Marriage* series, entitled "Demons." Take two couples suffering a mid-life crisis: Adrian and Anne, and Tom and Trish. Bored with their own marriages, they decide to go to Switzerland together on a holiday and indulge in some wife-swapping. On which note, I think it is time to turn to the thoroughly moral and healthy world of:

Detectives

Or, in the case of *The Master*, (tomorrow, Sunday), a rather strange and weird world. All in all, this series is a bit silly, and very fragmentary. But I would dearly like to know how Lee manages that very nifty disappearing trick of his. This week *Ninja* skills are required to dissuade the mob from pressuring a woman who is the local works union chief. Nothing unwholesome about auntie Jessica though, who returns on Monday for another run of *Murder, She Wrote*. This week she salutes forth to discover who has been poisoning the food (and therefore the customers) in a restaurant. *The Equalizer*, (Tuesday), is respectability personified of course. Last week he even got extremely annoyed with young Mickey, his hired help, who made the bad mistake of falling for their very pretty client. McCall solved the problem by kicking Mickey out and staying in the girl's flat himself. This week he is on the trail of a professional hit man hired by an international conglomerate to kill a diplomat and his wife. Finally, for those of you who have been bewailing his absence, Hunter returns on Friday, attempting to prove that a young soldier who has been accused of murdering young girls is in fact innocent.

Feature films and soaps

Tonight's is a 1958 production called *From The Earth To The Moon*. It is, shall we say, loose adaptation of the Jules Verne novel, and stars Joseph Cotten and George Sanders. In the 1880's an armaments millionaire finances a trip to the moon in a projectile fired by his own invention. To quote that caustic critic, Leslie Halliwell, it is: "Cardboard science-fiction, with an imposing cast of sea in an unspeakable script and an unseaworthy production" which could of course mean that it is a barrel of laughs. There is also a film on Thursday, but it has yet to be chosen. This leaves us with "Soaps," or rather "Soap." (Oh, if only it were). On Thursday night we return to Eden, for another preposterous instalment of this fatuous saga. Silly Jilly has now managed to lose every single asset of Stephanie's company in the land-scam. (Steph's master-plan to oust Jilly seems to have one serious drawback. To wit: Jilly may be gone, but so is all the money. But no doubt Steph will overcome this minor hiccup). Any way, Jake decides to "get rid of" Jilly. This rather sinister decision could involve practically anything, but Jilly counters by threatening to give the police the photographs that Cassie took showing the evil duo disposing of Olive's body. This of course means that Jilly would go to jail as well. Not to worry: she's been there before after all, and probably looks on the prospect as a chance to meet up with some old friends. As for "Dallas" and "Falcon Crest," they have been dumped for the duration of Ramadan, and a jolly good thing too.

An un-Swiss way to sell watches

Switzerland's watch industry, almost ruined in the 1970s by Far East competition, has recovered by paying most "un-Swiss" attention to fun and fashion. W.J. Luetkens, recently in Switzerland, reports.

THE Swiss always did make good watches. Now they have learnt how to sell them in a world transformed by quartz technology and fierce competition from Hong Kong and Japan.

Quartz has made good time-keeping commonplace and cheap. As a high-wage country, Switzerland had to provide something extra when the Japanese almost brought the Swiss industry to its knees in the late 1970s.

That something extra was style, luxury or, in the lower price range, the almost impudent marketing circus of Swatch and similar watches as fun and fashion wear.

A good watch often used to last a lifetime. Now the makers of the plastic-cased variety are delighted to find that the real enthusiast may wear several of these new watches simultaneously. Swatch now plans two annual changes of styling to keep the fashion alive.

Mr. Robert A. Hussy, an executive at SMH, the largest Swiss watchmaking concern and producer of Swatch, sums up the Swatch revolution by saying: "It is so delightfully un-Swiss." Un-Swiss or not, the Swatch and others of its kind have helped to reassert Switzerland's primacy in world markets.

Though total exports last year of 57.3 million watches and movements lagged well behind the 126 million exported from Japan and the 399.5 million exported from Hong Kong, by value the Swiss were well ahead: exports of Sfr4.3 billion (\$2.4 billion) in 1985 as against Sfr 3.5 billion from Japan and Sfr2.8 billion from Hong Kong. (The figures are those of the Swiss Watchmakers' Federation. In the case of Hong Kong they are inflated because the colony imported watches and movements worth Sfr1.9 billion in 1985, most of which were re-exported.)

A recent study of the industry, made by the Union Bank of Switzerland, states that the Swiss have regained market share since the near-decade of the 1970s, to the point where they supply 10 per cent of world exports of watches and complete movements by volume, but 45 per cent by value. The Japanese share is about 35 per cent in both cases and that of the rest of Asia, including Hong Kong, 50 per cent by volume, but a mere 14 per cent by value.

Behind the figures there are several facts worth noting. Unlike Hong Kong, the Swiss have no truck with the very cheap and labour-intensive simple digital watch. Unlike the Japanese they are not committed to very high volume production, at the cost of some economies of scale, but gaining, instead, greater potential flexibility.

Finally, the figures demonstrate that the Swatch revolution, having taken place at the cheaper (though not the cheapest) end of the market, does not tell the full story of recent events.

To be complete the story must include the luxury watchmakers, who are thriving, and the makers of watches in the middle price range, the sort of thing that used to be given as a 15th birthday present. It retails in Switzerland for Sfr150-500 compared with about Sfr50 for the Swatch. The medium range makers still suffer from the traditional fragmentation of the industry, though Dr. Daniel A. Kellerhals, director-general of the watchmakers' federation, feels that such diversity, provided it is not excessive, gives the chance to achieve the flexibility called for in an age when fashion and marketing are increasingly important.

Besides some very specialised businesses, such as makers of faces or hands, the federation still has 220 members who assemble complete watches, a number that is likely to decrease. Those who survive will have to show inventiveness in styling and technology, but also in their marketing.

Since costs money, some makers have teamed up with owners of well-known brands of other consumer goods. The watches are sold under the label and through the outlets of these brands and made to fit their image.

This is a variation on the theme of the Swatch which has established its own brand image and given rise to a small industry producing accessories such as costume jewellery or sunglasses matching the current Swatch ranges. The Swatch-maker, SMH, commissions the goods and charges for the right to copy the patterns.

The Swatch craze was the major element in SMH's return to profit. Consolidated profit for 1983 was zero, rising to Sfr26.5 million in 1984. Figures for 1985 are not yet available: a forecast of Sfr86.5 million was made last November, but has been rendered out of date by the decline of the dollar and by the need to rescue one of SMH's businesses, Omega.

But Mr. Hussy says that none the less 1985 was a good year, and that the indications for 1986 are good. Of the dollar, he says that "we can just about live" with the present exchange rates.

For the Swiss industry as a whole it is important that SMH should do well, since its ETA division provides about three-quarters of the electronic movements needed in Switzerland.

Evidence that the concern, the biggest Swiss watch maker, has recovered from a bad patch came last year when a group of Swiss entrepreneurs, headed by Mr. Nicolas G. Hayek, increased their small stake to 51 per cent of the shares and undertook to hold on to them for at least seven years. A group of banks, which still holds about 30 per cent, at the same time wrote off some Sfr230 million it had provided to keep the concern (then still known as Asag/SSIH) above water.

In the rarefied atmosphere of the Geneva luxury watchmakers, mundane events such as reconstruction or flagging sales are hardly known and certainly never breathed about. They do not talk much about their business, but as a rule cannot (and probably do not want to) keep up with demand.

One of the most aristocratic, Patek Philippe, gives a sales figure of about 340 million for 1984. Output varies from 10,000 to 12,000 pieces, all hand-made. The price range, in Switzerland, ranges from Sfr5,800 for a plain gold watch with hour, minute and second hands only, to over Sfr500,000 for a piece made to order, decorated with jewels or enamel miniatures, incorporating a perpetual calendar and showing the phases of the moon. It may be a stopwatch, too, and will even tell the time of day.

Patek Philippe, now owned by the Stern family of Geneva, claims to be the only watch company that will still decorate a watch for you with an enamel miniature of your own choice. So delicate is this work that the artist may have to pull out a hair from her head to paint on the finer detail.

But the main interest of the business is in the perfection of its mechanical movements, which appeals to the horological enthusiast fascinated by a watch that may contain up to 800 hand-made pieces.

About one in three of Patek Philippe's watches for men are mechanical, but women seem to be more down to earth: the share of quartz movements is 60 per cent among the women's watches.

With engaging frankness, Patek Philippe describes the mystique of the hand-made mechanical watch as an "incredible anachronism." It seems to be one that enough people remain ready to pay for — Financial Times feature.

Swiss watchmakers — key figures

	1982	1985
Businesses in the industry	727	631
Labour force	38,151	31,949
Watch exports:		
Pieces (million)	18.5	25.2
Swiss francs (million)	2,755	3,444
Exports of movements:		
Pieces (million)	12.7	13.4
Swiss francs (million)	256	220
Exports of non-assembled movements:		
Pieces (million)	14.5	18.8
Swiss francs (million)	81	139
Total exports (SWFr million)	3,502	4,311
Chief export markets (SWFr million):*		
1. U.S.	450	790
2. Hong Kong	415	501
3. West Germany	247	360
4. Italy	321	342
5. France	250	278
6. Saudi Arabia	275	203
7. Japan	135	197
8. The U.K.	143	195

* As ranked in 1985.

Source: Swiss Watchmakers' Federation.

U.S. Mideast policy must define American interests in the region and communicate directly with all parties in the conflict

(Continued from page 4)

and to stop trading with South Africa as we would challenge our own nation to do the same. I would hope that a climate would exist in this country for one to take those kinds of positions and not be labeled in some way as an enemy.

Sladora: You have said you are for mutual recognition of the two states. Could you play a role to bring the sides together?

Jackson: I wish I could. I'm not sure I can. And if I could, I would. The U.S. government is in the best position to play such a role. It's a high-risk venture, but if the U.S. were the host, it would give both parties the latitude, and perhaps the time, to move toward an agreement.

Because the U.S. means so much to Israel, and because it could mean so much to the Palestinians, it would be to the benefit of all. What's missing is leadership. If U.S. leadership were there, it could cut through the fears and anxieties and give peace a chance.

Sladora: You know that the U.S. Congress gives increasing aid to Israel. How would you want to see that changed?

Jackson: Well, Israel's been getting more arms, but it's less secure. Israelis are building homes on the West Bank, but they live in greater fear and anxiety. It goes back to a point that Jesus made a long time ago — that a house must be built on rock, not on sand. The settlements are built on sand. No matter how strong the sand may be, a house built on sand is structurally in jeopardy. When the wind blows, so the analogy goes, the sand blows too.

The last thing Sadat told me

was, "Urge the Israelis to stop building settlements." Israel is creating an institutional state of eternal war. This is forcing Israel more and more to having to employ a "final solution" to end the Palestinian question. Israel's soul, I'm afraid, cannot withstand the tremors of a "final solution" against another people. So, the West Bank settlements policy is not a good policy; it tightens up the hammerlock.

Avnery: I must ask you about (Nation of Islam leader Minister) Louis Farrakhan. There are many who consider him an outright anti-Semite.

Jackson: I think that the threat of Farrakhan is exaggerated. It should be remembered that Farrakhan is not interested in state power. Farrakhan will not change U.S. policy toward Israel. Farrakhan is not nearly as dangerous as the force represented by Meir Kahane. Kahane has an eye on state power; he is an elected official. Kahane is on a track to become head of state. He may not get there but he's on that track. Farrakhan is not on a track to become head of state. So, Farrakhan's audacity to challenge certain ideas is amplified. I happen to think that it would be a mistake to use Farrakhan as a symbol, causing the Black community to mobilize its feelings. If Israel's existence and its economic development are not threatened by Farrakhan, then it is best not to exaggerate the threat. Israel's government is threatened by what happens on the West Bank; Israel's moral authority is threatened by the rise of Kahane; Israel's moral authority is threatened by the massacres at Sabra and Shatila. Those are issues of substance which we ought to address. We would do well not

to exaggerate the threat of Farrakhan and ignore the real danger of Kahane. Kahane comes regularly to the U.S. and incites. He has organized marches on my home and threatened my family. Farrakhan has never organized a march on anyone's home.

Avnery: So you don't think he's a problem?

Jackson: No, I simply think that we must not overreact. We must put the thing in perspective and let water seek its own level. We shouldn't raise the level of water over the top.

Avnery: There are many misunderstandings about your role and about the relations between Blacks and Jews in general. I believe that it's very important that Israelis and American Jews have the record on you set straight.

Jackson: The record has never been widely circulated. I got involved in support of the Jewish community in Skokie because I chose to get involved. I didn't have to. I chose to. On the Middle East trip, we went to Israel because we chose to go to show our respect. If I was insensitive to the concerns of Jews, I wouldn't have chosen to do those things.

The record that gets told about me is distorted. When I went to Israel, I visited the Holocaust Museum, Yad Vashem. I saw the barbed wire, the striped uniforms, the chains. I was saddened, but it wasn't the first time I had seen this.

I grew up in South Carolina, and I saw Blacks behind barbed wires, people being picked up and stuck in jail for a weekend, people in striped uniforms wearing chains, working for the "chain gang." So I had seen the barbed wire, the striped uniforms and the chains before.

When I came out, a reporter came up to me and asked me what I thought about it. I said, "It's a tragedy. The whole world should say 'never again: never again to fascism, never again to the Holocaust.'" The reporter asked, "isn't it unique?" I said, "well, it's tragic." He asked, "unique?"

Now, to my way of thinking, the words "tragic" and "unique" convey two distinctly different emotions. Tragedy has a deeper meaning. Unique is, by comparison, a word that carries far less feeling. So I told the reporter that I thought the Holocaust wasn't necessarily unique. The headline on the story said, "Jackson disrespectful of Holocaust." That was simply unfair. There has been a drive to make us into the enemy, and then to attack the enemy that has been made. We are not an enemy and we should not be made into an enemy.

The historical record speaks for itself. Black soldiers were the first Americans to reach Buchenwald concentration camp. Blacks were in the Army Corps of Engineers whose job it was to dismantle the land mines, so they went ahead of the regular army. When a group of Blacks came on the Buchenwald camp and they saw the smokestacks coming up, they originally thought it was a German factory.

They crawled up the hills and looked out. When the doors opened, they saw Jews pouring out. They were emaciated and had sores all over their bodies. Off to the side, they saw bodies stacked up. The Black soldiers originally didn't know what they had come upon, but when the Jews saw that they were Blacks, they knew they weren't Nazis. For many, this was the first time they had ever seen a Black person.

The Black soldiers had the cha-

llenge of helping the concentration camp survivors climb onto trucks, and to bury their dead. In that experience, real bonds were forged. Our relationship (between Blacks and Jews) has a basis in mutuality. It's not a one-way street. But the record of our relationship is not known.

Sladora: If it were arranged for you to have discussions with leading officials, could you come to the Middle East and contribute to the process of dialogue?

Jackson: For me to operate as a moral force for social justice, I have to have my civilian counterparts with contacts to their respective governments who desire my services. If I go without portfolio on the one hand, and without an invitation on the other, my effectiveness is limited, and the speculation about my motives overwhelm my mission. If in fact I were invited by credible forces on both sides, and I therefore had standing, then we could set goals.

My heart pains every day a car bomb explodes. Everytime there is another killing, it brings so much pain. I want peace very badly. Peace is vital, and it is a moral imperative.

Peace is so very important to us as Americans because we are now seeing Middle East warfare spilling over into the United States. We see Alex Odeh killed in Los Angeles and Arab Americans threatened across the U.S. Now we see movies like "Delta Force" with its negative stereotypes, transplanting the Middle East conflict into the American consciousness and further polarising the American public.

Not only do we need peace but, I believe, that there is a chance for peace. Peres, I believe, seems to want peace. He has lowered the

level of rhetoric, and can further help to clear the air in the Middle East. His approach may not bring a solution, but at least he helps eliminate the level of verbal pollution.

Arafat, too, has a real desire for peace. He is, I believe, looking for a way out of war and a way to statehood. But he has the disadvantage of not having access to the government which can make it all happen. The U.S. won't talk to Arafat.

The question of access is important. Israelis have access to the Palestinians and they also have access to the U.S. Palestinians have access to Israel only on the battlefield, and no access to the U.S. This is not healthy.

Maybe the ultimate mistake that some of the parties made in the recent round of Middle East talks was to believe that Reagan wanted peace. Reagan is mainly anti-Soviet and not pro-peace. He is not even anti-terrorist. While he speaks out against terrorism in the Middle East, he funds it in Central America, and supports it in South Africa, and he turns a blind eye to it until the last minute in the Philippines and Haiti.

I want to help us move along from such a policy and toward a peace policy. I believe that we ought not to let the Middle East experience come here. Instead, we need to work to export the U.S. experience to the Middle East. We must give peace a chance.

I remember a number of years ago, I was teaching a course in California. In my classroom were Arabs and Jews, Blacks and Hispanics. They studied together, they stayed in the same dormitories together, they ate together. That is the American experiment, that is the vision we need to export to the Middle East and to give peace a chance.

Jordan begins sports campaign for Africa

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The national basketball championship final, pitting Al Ahli and the Orthodox Club against each other tonight at Sports City, kicks off Jordan's two-week long participation in "Sports Aid," an international campaign to raise funds for drought and famine-stricken Africa.

The events scheduled to be held in Jordan between Saturday and May 25, the Kingdom's Independence Day anniversary, include volleyball and handball matches, a bridge tournament, wrestling and possibly a football match and a marathon race.

The activities in Jordan are part of the international campaign entitled "Sports Aid" to raise funds for famine-hit Africa. The campaign is organized jointly by UNICEF and British pop-singer Bob Geldof's Band Aid Trust. More than 100 countries around the world are expected to take part in the charity project, proceeds of which will be equally shared by UNICEF and Band Aid in financing relief and development projects in African countries.

In Jordan, the proceeds of the sports events in the Kingdom will be shared between UNICEF and the National Committee for Sudan chaired by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. A joint committee of Ministry of Youth and UNICEF officials is entrusted with the task of organizing the events.

In most other countries the "Sports Aid" events kick off on May 17 and culminate with a marathon "Race Against Time" on May 25 when a lone runner from Africa reaches the headquarters of the United Nations in New York City. The African runner's arrival at the U.N. will serve as the starting gun for the "Race Against

Time" marathon staged simultaneously around the globe. Despite the time differences between various parts of the world, UNICEF expects millions of people to take part in the marathon.



The "Race Against Time" is symbolically named to remind the world of the plight of the millions of Africans who face the peril of drought and famine. The message that the African runner will carry from one of the worst-drought affected regions in Africa is simple: Africa needs help. Quits significantly, the runner, who will leave Africa on May 17, will run 10 kilometres through every major European capital with the message before crossing the Atlantic to New York, where he will deliver it to assembled heads of state and delegates from all over the world at the U.N.

The runner will light a "Sports

Aid" flame in New York, and a rocket will be fired to set off the "Race Against Time."

The concept of raising funds through sports events is not new; nor is the beneficiary — Africa. But the difference this time around is that it would be the first time ever that "Millions will be running in over 100 countries at the same time for Africa," says Suba Madjalani, UNICEF information officer for the Middle East and North Africa.

The final laps of the African runner through New York City on May 25 will be broadcast live on television and radio with a special hook-up with every continent, said Ms. Madjalani.

The massive UNICEF-Band Aid joint effort around the world is expected to bring in greatly-needed millions of dollars for the Africans. World nations, U.N. and other international agencies and Geldof did manage to raise massive amounts and avert the death of millions in 1985 and the situation improved. But if proper action is not taken now to streamline long-term development programme, the crisis could recur in a greater magnitude and the situation could get out of control, according to relief officials.

Jordan has been one of the Third World countries which, despite their limited resources, sought to help the needy in Africa, especially in Sudan. Ms. Madjalani recalled, Crown Prince Hassan led the national effort which resulted in many a needy person in Sudan getting food, relief supplies and medicine. Furthermore, the Crown Prince's initiative also spurred several other Arab countries to follow suit.

Host countries of the "Sports Aid" campaign have the choice of naming the beneficiary African country for the proceeds of their national campaign or to leave it to UNICEF programmes. In Jordan's case, the National Committee for Sudan will take direct charge of the half of proceeds of the Kingdom's campaign and use the funds to support its ongoing campaign to aid the Sudanese people.

Among world sports events scheduled to take place during the "Sports Aid" week are an "ultimate cricket match" between West Indies and a "Rest of the World" team, an ice-skating gala with prominent international athletes and a "gymnastics spectacular" with participants from 13 countries.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Prince Abdullah patronises UNRWA race

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein on Thursday patronised the fifth sponsored-run organised at the Amman Training College playgrounds by the staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA). In addition to the running event, the programme included sport, folklore and musical demonstrations by UNRWA students. At the end of the race Prince Abdullah presented cups to the winners. The race was held to raise funds for aid to refugees that cannot be covered by UNRWA's regular budget.

Majali attends Aqaba sports festival

AQABA (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali Thursday patronised the first annual sports festival in Aqaba. Taking part in the festival were ten schools, which organised technical and sports performances, in addition to a tug-of-war game and race competitions. At the end of the festival, Mr. Majali presented winners with medals and cups.

Liverpool captain Hansen has something to prove

By Timothy Collins
Reuter

LONDON — Liverpool captain Alan Hansen's unexpected omission from the provisional Scottish World Cup squad has given him and his team extra incentive to beat city rivals Everton in the Football Association (F.A.) Cup final Saturday.

The decision to leave Hansen out of Scotland's 22-man squad for Mexico stunned Liverpool, including fellow-Scott and player-manager Kenny Dalglish, who was selected by international manager Alex Ferguson.

Republic of Ireland defender Mark Lawrenson summed up the team's reaction when he said: "I am shocked — Alan should be in the Scottish side, never mind the squad."

Dalglish, who may delay naming his final line-up until arriving at Wembley Stadium Saturday, will doubtless make full psychological use of the feelings sweeping through his squad as he builds them up for the first all-

Merseyside final.

Hansen, 30, who has won more medals with Liverpool than any player at the club other than Dalglish, will have the perfect opportunity to demonstrate his strengths Saturday when he marks Graeme Sharp, one of the 22 chosen by Ferguson.

Hansen, an elegant, long-striding central defender blessed with the touch of an inside-forward, will also be seeking to add to a collection of 11 medals — five league title wins, three European Cup triumphs and three League Cup victories — in which an F.A. Cup Winner's medal is conspicuously absent.

"When we lost to Manchester United in the semifinal last season, I thought my chance had gone. We felt we had a bit of a semifinal hoodoo," he said. "But we've banished that and I've got the chance to complete my set."

Dalglish will also be looking for his first F.A. Cup Winner's medal as he plots his team's bid for the first English League and Cup double since Arsenal in 1971.

"I'm not delaying to keep Everton guessing," he said. "It will be the most difficult decision I have had to face as a manager. Those left out will obviously be disappointed."

Everton manager Howard Kendall has also delayed naming a team. Much will depend on a fitness test on centre-back Derek Mountfield who has a knee injury. If he is ruled out, former Liverpool reserve Alan Harper is likely to be called in.

Mountfield's absence would be a heavy blow to Everton's hopes of stifling the threat from Ian Rush and Dalglish. His fitness could be the crucial factor in a final likely to be so tightly contested it may require a replay on Tuesday.

If further deadlock prevailed, a penalty shoot-out would be used for the first time in the competition's history.

Bol sets his sights on stardom

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuter

KHARTOUM — Manute Bol is determined to be recognised for more than just his height.

The grandson of a Sudanese tribal chieftain, he ranks as the tallest player ever in U.S. professional basketball at 2.30 metres and one of its rising stars.

Back in his native land for a holiday, he served notice that he would make his presence felt even more next year.

The 23-year-old Bol, once dismissed as too fragile for the physical strains of the professional game, says:

"When I return to the U.S. I am going to do a lot of weightlifting and workouts. I think I am going to be better next year because the way I feel is I want to work hard."

That is good news for his team, the Washington Bullets, and bad news for their opposition in the big-money National Basketball Association (NBA) league.

Bol wants to be ranked among the NBA greats like Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Larry Bird and Moses Malone.

"Guys like Kareem and Larry

played basketball since they were kids," he told Reuters. "I only started six years ago. But I want to be as good as they are."

Already it has been a rag-to-riches story for Bol, and a story that has brought him fame back in Sudan.

Born into a Dinka tribe, he knew little of the world beyond his home village of Gogrial, where his daily chore was to guard his family's cattle on the lush green pastures of Bah El Ghazal.

In 1979 he was spotted by a local minister who decided to take him some 1,000 kilometres away to the capital Khartoum.

He began his basketball career with Khartoum's Catholic club and immediately lost a tooth hitting the metal rim of the goal net.

Friends and a visiting American coach persuaded him to try his hand in the United States.

On May 22, 1983, he boarded a flight to New York not knowing enough English to ask the airline attendant for a glass of water.

"They took me to Cleveland University but they would not let me play there because I had no high school diploma," he said. "So

friends took me to the University of Bridgeport in Connecticut where I studied English and played for one season."

"Then I decided to leave college because I could not make enough money playing collegiate basketball and the only way was to play pro ball," Bol recalls.

"But people said: 'You are not gonna make it in the NBA.' "I played for a while in the U.S. Basketball League and got drafted by the Washington Bullets shortly after I scored 27 points and made 15 rebounds in one league game."

Bol's first days with the Bullets were almost entirely taken up playing defence but this changed later in the season.

"Now I am beginning to shoot more, but defence remains my strongest point," Bol adds.

Last season he equalled a 1973 NBA record by blocking 15 shots against Atlanta.

Being the tallest player in the game does not mean much, he insists.

"I get blocked too," he says. "I even have to jump to dunk the ball in."

Jones takes new engine into contention

MONTE CARLO (R) — Alan Jones' smile was as warm as the Monaco sunshine.

A relatively new car, powered by an even newer engine, had carried Australia's former world champion into sixth place on the grid for Sunday's Grand Prix here.

It was a sparkling opening practice effort by the Haas Lola team who had their first taste of Formula One racing at Monza, Italy, last September, and it was only the second Grand Prix appearance of their long awaited Ford Turbo engine.

The likes of Brazilian Ayrton Senna and Finland's Keke Rosberg qualified higher than Jones in Thursday's opening practice but that was predictable as both men were in proven machinery.

Jones, world number one in 1980 and persuaded out of retirement to spearhead the Team Haas challenge, appeared well satisfied with the team's progress to date and the impression he has made in Monaco.

"We have much more of a chance here," he said Friday. "Although we are about 350BHP down on qualifying power and around 100BHP behind the other teams for racing the engine response is much quicker at Monaco. It's not like racing on fast tracks."

"If it rains we will be even better off," Jones added.

The Monaco street circuit is probably the tightest on the world championship calendar. It is a great leveller with much emphasis on driving ability rather than sheer speed. Jones, a gutsy performer, possesses plenty of talent.

But so does Senna and Rosberg, first and second on the grid on the

eve of final practice.

Senna has booked pole position at all three of this season's races, plus last year's Australian Grand Prix finale.

If the Lotus driver stays out in front Saturday he will be only one short of the record six pole positions in succession achieved by Briton Stirling Moss in 1959-60 and Austrian Niki Lauda in 1974.

While Senna was able to relax Friday, the only rest day between qualifying sessions in the entire championship series, his compatriot Nelson Piquet had much to worry about.

Piquet, joint title leader with

Senna, and his Williams teammate Nigel Mansell of Britain blew four Honda engines Thursday.

Two times world champion Piquet was left struggling in 13th place while Mansell was in even greater trouble. 22nd among a 26-car field.

The engine problems will have to be resolved Saturday if Mansell is to make the grid, restricted to 20 cars for safety reasons at Monaco.

In fact, Martin Brundle was the only driver among the quartet of Britons to make the top 20. He filled 14th place in the new Tyrrell which he has crashed in his last two attempts at starting a race.

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IAEA: Reactor fire is out

Plants similar to Chernobyl are not shut down

MOSCOW (Agencies) — An official of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said Friday that a fire at the No. 4 reactor of the Chernobyl nuclear power station has been extinguished and that the reactor is being encased in concrete.

Morris Rosen, director of the Division of Nuclear Safety for the United Nations agency, also said there was some fire damage to the plant's adjacent No. 3 reactor, but that its cooling system was working well and the damage posed no environmental or health threats.

IAEA Director Hans Blix said during a news conference at the Soviet Foreign Ministry Press Centre that he and the other IAEA officials looking into the April 26 accident have formed a "preliminary picture" of the disaster based on frank talks with Soviet officials.

Mr. Blix said the Soviets have agreed to provide daily readings of radiation levels, beginning Friday, from a monitoring station 60 kilometres from the power station as well as from six other stations along the Soviet Union's western border, from Leningrad to the Black Sea.

Mr. Blix said the Soviet Union did not shut down nuclear plants similar to the one at Chernobyl after the accident there.

Mr. Rosen said: "Soviet authorities seem to have found nothing in their research so far to lead them to shut down the others."

Mr. Rosen told a Moscow news

conference the chain reaction in the stricken Chernobyl reactor had stopped immediately after the initial explosion and never restarted.

A team from the IAEA visited the plant in the Ukraine Thursday. Mr. Rosen said the IAEA party were told that infra-red methods had indicated the temperature inside the sealed-in reactor core was significantly below melting point and falling.

While the possibility of a "meltdown" could not be completely excluded, in terms of physics, it was not a danger.

Meanwhile, Soviet News Agency TASS said Friday the Soviet Union may introduce warning mechanisms at its nuclear power stations in the event of radioactive leaks which could affect other countries.

A joint communique between the Soviet Union and the IAEA, issued by TASS, said Moscow had agreed to provide radiation readings from several monitoring stations.

The communique was issued at the end of a visit by Mr. Blix, who flew over the stricken Chernobyl plant Thursday.

It said safety measures "may include the development of a tim-

ely warning mechanism on radioactivity releases which could affect areas beyond national boundaries."

TASS said the Soviet authorities told Mr. Blix they were ready to provide information on the Chernobyl accident "as soon as it is available."

But it added: "The Soviet side stated that the accident will not affect the implementation of nuclear power development plans in the Soviet Union."

The communique said Mr. Blix was told that the three other reactors at the plant were undamaged but were shut down.

It said the "necessary operational personnel" were still present at the plant.

Both sides had agreed to call a meeting of international experts to "learn from the accident," it added.

TASS said the head of the commission set up by the Soviet government to look into the accident, Deputy Prime Minister Boris Shcherbina, led the Soviet delegation.

"The Soviet side is ready to provide the IAEA with information on the level of radiation from a station located at a distance of 60 kilometres from the power station and from several other stations located along the western border of the USSR," it said.

"The agency will be distributing this information to National Radiation Protection Authorities concerned."

Earlier Friday the Novosti press agency said Moscow was to set up a permanent monitoring station 50 kilometres from the plant. It did not say whether it would be Soviet or internationally manned.

School holidays in Kiev have been brought forward because of the Chernobyl nuclear accident, Ukrainian Health Minister Anatoly Romanenko said Friday.

Writing in the daily Pravda Ukraine, he said children from grades one to seven — aged six to 13 — would be sent off to the traditional holiday camps before May 15. The summer holidays for this age group were due to begin on May 25.

A group of visiting journalists have found some anxiety among the people of Kiev about their children, though no signs of panic. Mr. Romanenko said radiation levels in the city, 130 kilometres south of the stricken reactor, were falling gradually and no one, including children, was in any danger.

But he also recommended strict observance of guidelines issued early this week on washing regularly and said children should be allowed to play outside for only an hour a day.

Kiev, the Soviet Union's third largest city, was sunny and relaxed Friday. Bemedalled veterans and children holding bunches of flowers gathered to celebrate the national holiday marking the allied victory over Nazi Germany in 1945.

Shultz assures Aquino of U.S. support

MANILA (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on Friday assured President Corason Aquino of American support, but rejected requests for additional aid to the Philippines.

Mr. Shultz, who also met with government finance ministers, said the U.S. Congress "budget-cutting exercise" means aid will be held to the \$150 million already pledged.

Economic Planning Minister Solita Monsod and Trade Minister Jose Concepcion said they told Mr. Shultz the Philippines needs more than the \$150 million. They also said it needs better trade terms and help in easing its debt burden.

But all financial officials heard from Mr. Shultz were "sympathetic noises," Ms. Monsod said. The Philippines owes \$26 billion to foreign bankers.

Mr. Shultz told reporters the Philippines should focus its attention on rearranging the economy instead of asking for more assistance from the administration of President Ronald Reagan.

Ms. Monsod said that if the United States cannot give the Philippines more aid, then it should lift protectionist trade barriers and help convince commercial banks to lower interest charges on loans.

"If we can't get the aid and the trade, we are going to have to concentrate on the debt burden because that debt burden is too large," she said. "It's \$2.1 billion this year just for interest alone and another \$1.7 billion for amortization, where does that leave us?"

The \$150 million pledged in April is part of a package that also includes accelerating the delivery of \$200 million already in the pipeline and converting another \$124 million in loans to outright gifts.

Mr. Shultz also met for nearly an hour with current and former supporters of ousted Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos.

Bias Ople, a former labour minister who broke with Mr. Marcos after he fled into U.S. exile in February, said Mr. Shultz emphasised the need to preserve stability in the Philippines.

When Mr. Shultz arrived Thursday, he praised the "assertion of democracy" in the Philippines and said it "has earned the respect and admiration of freedom-loving people everywhere."

His 40-minute meeting with the president gave the U.S. government another chance to try to remove doubts about its support for the new government cited by Philippines Vice President Salvador Laurel.

"There are some cobwebs of doubt in the minds of many," Mr. Laurel said in Bali, Indonesia, after meeting with Mr. Reagan last week. "Doubts whether the Reagan administration recognises the new government of Mr. Aquino or whether it still recognises Mr. Marcos."

Philippine officials apparently resented the long telephone conversation Mr. Reagan had last week with Marcos in Hawaii. They also felt Mr. Reagan should not have waited until two months after she took office to call Mrs. Aquino.

White House officials said Mr. Reagan firmly but gently rejected Marcos' assertion he is still the rightful president of the Philippines.

A group of about 200 demonstrators chanting "Reagan terrorist" awaited Mr. Shultz when he arrived at the gates of Malacanang Palace for the meeting with Mrs. Aquino.

The protesters, who held signs saying "Marcos mad dog made in U.S.A." and "Reagan the great terrorist," dispersed peacefully soon after Mr. Shultz left for a series of meetings with other officials, including Mr. Laurel and Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile.

Opposition scores poll victory over Thatcher

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's ruling Conservative Party lost one of its safest parliamentary seats, narrowly retained a second, and was badly mauled in mid-term municipal elections.

In the northern rural district of Ryedale, opposition Liberal candidate Elizabeth Shields overturned a 16,000 Conservative majority Thursday to win by 5,000 votes.

In the midlands constituency of West Derbyshire, the final official results showed the Conservatives' majority was cut from more than 15,000 to just 100 after three recounts during the night recounted demanded by the second placed Liberals.

But in 209 municipal elections across the country it was the main opposition Labour Party that made the most significant gains. It captured control of 17 local authorities, five more than its own best estimates before the poll.

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) said that, translated nationwide, the results indicated Labour could emerge as the largest single party at the next general election.

Conservative Party Chairman Norman Tebbit acknowledged the results were a "great disappointment." Commentators described the outcome as a disaster for the ruling party.

With only a handful of municipal results to come, the Conservatives had lost control of 29 local councils. Labour gains included Bristol and Brighton in the predominantly conservative south of England.

More than half the electorate was entitled to vote in Thursday's council polls, which involved London and rural and city districts in England, Scotland and Wales.

Sherpa who conquered Everest dies aged 72

NEW DELHI (R) — Sherpa Tenzing Norgay, who conquered Everest in 1953 with Sir Edmund Hillary, died in the Indian city of Darjeeling Friday, the Press Trust of India reported. He was 72.

Tenzing, who was born in Nepal, was survived by his second wife and three sons and three daughters.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi hailed Tenzing in a message of condolence as "the tiger of the snows" and said the entire nation mourned him.

President Zail Singh said in a message he was "the doyen of mountaineering in India" and "his spirit, adventure and courage will always inspire all of us especially the youth."

Tenzing became a world figure

The Conservatives lost 726 of the more than 3,000 council seats at stake and gained 58. Labour made 537 gains and was well on the way to becoming the biggest party in London.

The results reflected opinion polls showing a slump in support for Mrs. Thatcher, particularly she allowed the use of British bases for U.S. air raids on Libya last month.

Ms. Shields won the Ryedale seat with a swing against the Conservatives of almost 19 per cent, largest of any by-election since 1983. She will be the centrist Liberal Party's first woman in the present parliament.

Labour Party Secretary Larry Whitty said of the municipal elections: "These results show we can win the seats to form the government at the next election."

Among banner headlines in daily newspapers were "Thatcher Shattered," in the pro-Labour Party Mirror, and "Tearful for the Tories" in the New Tabloid Friday.

Labour Leader Neil Kinnock said: "We're on course for majority rule after the next general election and I would like Mrs. Thatcher to call that election as soon as possible."

Under the constitution, Mrs. Thatcher has to call an election within the next two years.

Thursday's results represented her worst electoral defeat since she came to power seven years ago this month.

The Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency, spoke of a "night of misery at the polls" for Mrs. Thatcher and forecast that the demolition of the Conservative vote across the country would mean a major rethink of the Conservatives' general election strategy.

Iranian escapes stoning to death

TEHRAN (R) — An Iranian convicted of rape dodged a hail of rocks as he was being "stoned to death" under Islamic Law and was allowed to live. Witnesses said Amin Rahmati, 24, pushed himself out of a one metre deep hole and evaded a circle of 100 rock-throwing policemen. He quickly collapsed, but by escaping from the hole, he had exploited a legal loophole. "God gave me a second life," Rahmati said as he was led away, his head and body streaming with blood. He was returned to his cell while the supreme judicial council pondered his case.

Judicial Police Chief Abbas Hashemi told Reuters. Four executions by stoning have been carried out in Iran in the past month, after seven years in which only one or two were reported. The clerical government has made clear in recent weeks that it wants to step up Islamic punishment. Earlier, a 35-year-old thief with 15 convictions had the fingers of his right hand sliced off by a specially made electric guillotine in front of a small crowd in a south Tehran park. He had been sentenced before the Tehran public, although there had been at least nine other such punishments since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. In Mas-had in east Iran, he said, the guillotine punishment had been very effective. "In the past three months since the first case of this punishment, burglaries have dropped by 70 per cent there," he said.

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Shanghai freeloaders get a surprise

PEKING (R) — Inspectors fined 10,000 people who failed to buy tickets on Shanghai's jammed buses during three days of spot checks, the city's main newspaper reported. The New People's Evening News said fines of one yuan (30 cents) were slapped on the culprits in China's most populous city, where 10 million people use public transport every day.

Wellington (R) — New Zealand is fencing off and draining a forest to give sanctuary to a rare nocturnal snail threatened with extinction by hungry rats, wildlife officials said Friday. The dwindling population of 50 mm long Powelliphanta Traversi will have undisturbed possession of 9.5 hectares (23 acres) of forest and swamp near Levin in North Island as protection from rats and collectors. It will be New Zealand's first snail reserve.

N. Zealand preparing snail sanctuary

Man loses head over prize draw

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Police are hunting murderers who killed a man and stole his brain, probably to bring them luck in Malaysia's weekly lottery. Mohamad Kassim Ismail, 32, was found sitting upright in front of an Indian temple south west of Kuala Lumpur with a deep head wound. Part of his brain was missing but his money and watch were untouched. Police said local residents believed sacrificing a human brain would bring luck in the popular national draw.

Man tries to shoot rat, wounds son

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin (R) — A man who tried to shoot a rat that crept into his bedroom gravely wounded his 12-year-old son who was sleeping in an adjoining room, police said. The child, Michael Rollins, was in critical condition. The father told police he got up, brought a bowl of cereal into his bedroom and awoke later to find a rat eating the leftovers. He fired two shots with a .22-calibre gun, one of which passed through a wall. His son was shot in the head but the rat escaped. The father was taken to jail but has not been charged.

Liz Taylor seeks funds for AIDS research

WASHINGTON (R) — Actress Elizabeth Taylor, surrounded by scores of photographers, has appeared at a U.S. Senate hearing to appeal for more funds to fight Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). As her former husband, Republican Senator John Warner of Virginia, looked on, Taylor said more money was urgently needed for research on AIDS.

ETA claims attack on Spanish judge

MADRID (R) — Basque separatist guerrillas Friday claimed responsibility for a failed grenade attack on Spain's top judge in Madrid Thursday.

Antonio Hernandez Gil, 71-year-old president of the supreme court and the General Judicial Council, escaped unhurt as three anti-tank grenades were fired at his car by remote control from tubes in the boot of a double-parked car.

Only one hit. "It was a matter of centimetres," Hernandez Gil said.

An anonymous caller told an international news agency in Bilbao that ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) was responsible and would explain later why it car-

ried out the attack — the second in central Madrid in the run-up to an early election on June 22.

Deputy Prime Minister Alfonso Guerra said this admission and the failure of the attack against Mr. Hernandez Gil were a setback for ETA.

Official sources have said they feared Basque attacks in the run-up to an early election next June 22.

They said ETA appeared to have concentrated its activities on Madrid after several of its commandos were dismantled in northern Spain.

ETA, fighting for the independence of the Basque country, has killed 10 people this year.

Bangladesh opposition demands fresh polls

DHAKA (R) — The head of Bangladesh's main opposition party, the Awami League, Friday demanded fresh polls in 50 constituencies following widespread violence and allegations of fraud in Wednesday's general election.

"We have asked them (the authorities) to hold fresh polling in places where government-backed Jatiya Party workers resorted to violence, intimidation and rigging," Sheikh Hasina Wajed said.

"But despite everything, we are preparing ourselves to sit in parliament," she added.

Officials earlier stopped announcing election results, apparently because counting showed Jatiya was trailing the opposition.

With results from 184 contests decided, Jatiya had won 81 seats against 103 for the opposition parties.

Chief Election Commissioner Justice A.T.M. Maswood told Reuters that results in 109 constituencies had been withheld because of irregularities while full reports were awaited from seven other areas.

He said he might call fresh elections in constituencies where violence occurred.

Bangladesh Television, which broadcast round-the-clock reports after the polls closed on Wednesday, abruptly switched off at midnight on Thursday.

The Awami League said the programme ended "to allow the government more time to manipulate election results so that more Jatiya Party candidates will win seats in the 300-member parliament."

Two British politicians, invited by opposition groups to observe the election, accused Jatiya Thursday of ballot rigging which they said amounted to a "tragedy for democracy."

But the country's military ruler, President Hossain Mohammad Ershad, responded: "They have no business to pass comments on our own internal affairs."

"They must realise that Bangladesh is no longer a colony of the United Kingdom. We are not really bothered by what they say," he added.

Diana perks up in Japan's sunshine

KYOTO, Japan (R) — Princess Diana, who looked pale and tired when she arrived in Japan on the final leg of a gruelling 12-day overseas tour Thursday night, perked up in the sunshine of Kyoto Friday.

The princess, whose visit has sparked an outbreak of "Diana mania," smiled broadly as she joined her husband Prince Charles and their host Prince Hiro on a stroll through the vast sculpted pine and maple gardens of the 19th century Shugakuin Villa.

The couple's press secretary, Victor Chapman, denied rumours that Princess Diana had fainted on four occasions prior to a much-publicised incident in Canada this week.

He said the princess could not remember fainting at any time before her collapse at Expo 86 in Vancouver on Tuesday.

Amid the variegated greens of the ornamental pine trees, the princess looked dazzling in a London-designed dress clearly inspired by Japan — a white silk one-piece with kimono-style neckline and wide sash and a print of large red dots, reminiscent of the Japanese national flag.

After their 13-and-a-half hour flight from Canada, the prince and princess were spared the additional ordeal of sleeping on the floor Japanese-style at Kyoto's 19th century imperial palace.

The interior of the palace is decorated in the most avant-garde style of its time — Western Victorian, with heavy drapes, white lace antimacassars, and beds.

After their morning stroll the couple took part in a traditional outdoor tea ceremony in the grounds of the 17th century Nijo Castle, tasting sweet bean candies and bitter dark green tea prepared by a grand tea master.

They arrived to a warm welcome by 50 local nursery school children in navy and beige uniforms, girls waving the Union Jack and boys the Japanese Rising-Sun flag.

Princess Diana delighted the assembled crowd by trying on a peach-coloured floral kimono presented to her by the governor of Kyoto.

People of Kyoto turned out early for the royal show. Police were posted every three metres and ropes lined the pavements along the royal route.

Nakasone seen backing away from general election

TOKYO (R) — Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, under fire for apparently gaining little for Japan from the Tokyo economic summit, signalled Friday he may have abandoned a quest to seek an extended term in power.

Aides said his acceptance at a cabinet meeting of a timetable for plan to redistribute parliamentary seats ruled out his chances of calling general elections next month.

It also means he would have little hope of persuading the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to let him stay on as its leader after his second two-year term expires in October.

By stepping down as LDP leader, Mr. Nakasone would automatically relinquish the premiership.

He has been bitterly criticised for failing to secure the cooperation of other countries at this week's summit in stemming the dramatic rise of the yen which is bringing hard times to Japanese exporters.

Mr. Nakasone had banked heavily on cutting a good summit figure to further his political ambitions. LDP rules says a leader can

serve only two two-year terms and Mr. Nakasone would need to increase his support in parliament to get them changed.

The plan accepted by Mr. Nakasone was basically about redistribution of seats in the diet, or lower house of parliament.

It would reduce the number of seats in sparsely populated rural districts and increase them in urban areas. But the plan contained a clause requiring a 30-day notification period before the law can go into effect.

This meant it could not become effective until after parliament dissolves on May 22.

The complicated political timetable made it unlikely that Mr. Nakasone could then call general elections to coincide with upper house polls set for the end of June.

To rally the support he seeks, Mr. Nakasone would have to hold both elections at the same time.

It meant that Mr. Nakasone, regarded as the highest-profile Japanese leader for years, would probably have to ride out the remainder of his term as a lame duck leader.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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WATCH THOSE SPOTS

Neither vulnerable. West deals.	
NORTH	
♦ K6	
♣ J78	
♦ 10532	
♠ A1092	
WEST	
♦ 8	♦ Q432
♣ Q652	♣ 103
♦ QJ96	♦ AK4
♠ Q76	♠ J543
SOUTH	
♦ A J10975	
♣ AK9	
♦ 87	
♠ K3	

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass Pass 1♦
Pass 1NT Pass 3♦
Pass 4♦ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

In recent years, Pakistan has dominated Asian bridge. This year they will again represent their zone in the World Bridge Championships, to be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Paying attention to spot cards proved rewarding on this deal from Pakistan's Asian Championship match